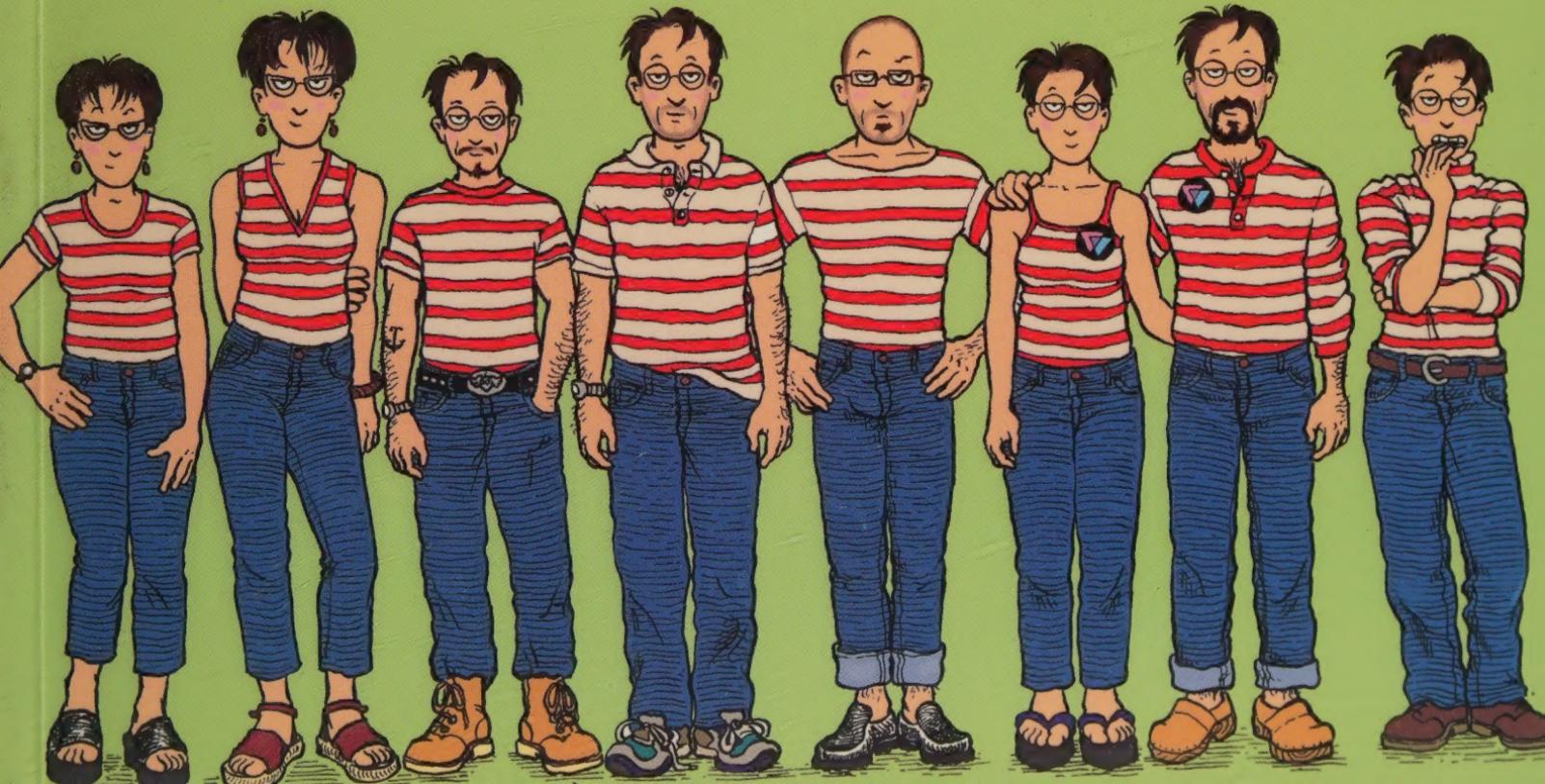


post- Dykes To Watch Out For

by Alison Bechdel



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Ithaca, New York

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for Nancy Bereano

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WHEN WE LAST LOOKED IN, SOME OF OUR SUBJECTS HAD VEERED A BIT TOO CLOSE TO THE RIM OF THAT VAST CAULDRON OF PROCESSED CHEESE SPREAD OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE GREAT AMERICAN MELTING POT.



MEANWHILE, HOUSEMATES GINGER, SPARROW, AND LOIS ARE ABOUT TO SET THE COMMUNAL LIVING ENDURANCE RECORD... AND THEY'RE SIGNING ON FOR ANOTHER HITCH!



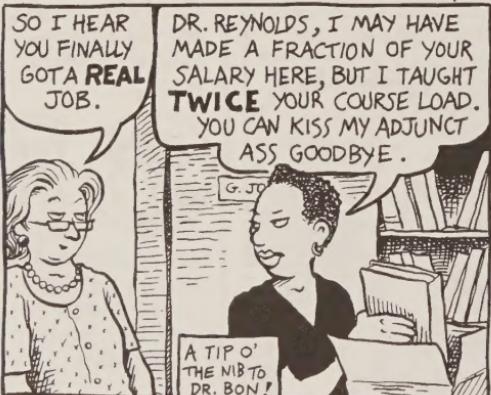
THEIR COMMUNE EXPANDS BY ONE WHEN STUART, SPARROW'S NEW, RATHER MASCULINE PARAMOUR, NEEDS NEW DIGS.



6

©AFTER A DISHEART-ENING STINT ON THE JOB MARKET, GINGER ACCEPTS A POSITION IN THE ENGLISH DEPART- MENT OF BUFFALO LAKE STATE COLLEGE...

...A MERE 105 MINUTE COMMUTE AWAY...



©SPARROW RUNS THE LOCAL BATTERED WOMEN'S SHELTER...



...AND LOIS CONTINUES TO HONE HER MARKETING EXPERTISE AT THAT AUGUST EMPORIUM OF THE PRINTED WORD AND OTHER SUNDRIES, MADWIMMIN BOOKS.



©SALES HAVE BEEN LANGUISHING AT MADWIMMIN, WHERE BOSS JEZANNA AND HUMBLE CLERK MO PLUCKILY STAFF THE BARRICADES AGAINST THE CORPORATE BLITZKRIEG.



Mo's off-duty life has been fraught with financial suspense as well, ever since she became affiliated with **SYDNEY**, women's studies professor and world class spendthrift.



Never reluctant to solve the problems of others, Mo proposes cohabitation...



...and Sydney moves in, lock, stock, and tenure track.



Will Mo come to her senses?

Will Madwimmin Books go the way of full-service gas?



Will Clarice, Toni, and Raffi retain their distinctive textures, or be assimilated wholesale into the American cheese fondue?

Pony up for the damn book already and find out.

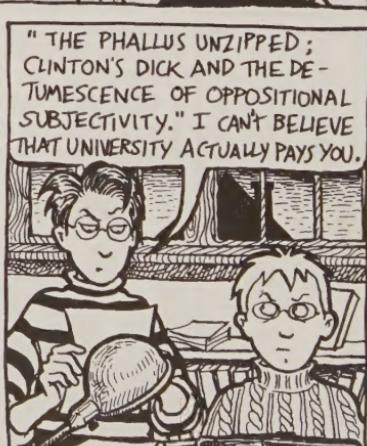
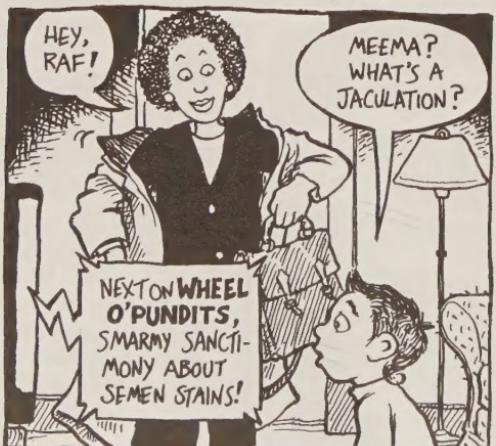
enough
already

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GET OUT
YOUR
ROLODEX.
AS WE
REJOIN OUR
WANDERING
NARRATIVE,
THERE
SEEM TO BE
A FEW
CHANGES OF
ADDRESS.

CLARICE AND TONI HAVE EMIGRATED TO THE RIGHT SIDE OF THE TRACKS.



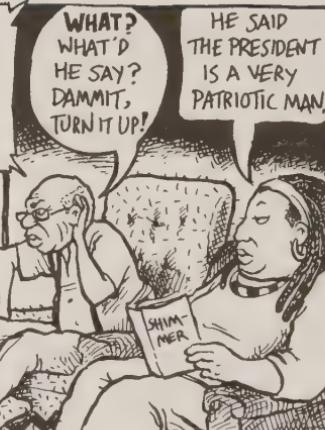
SYDNEY, ECONOMIES ARE COLLAPSING ALL OVER THE WORLD! THE TALIBAN HAS THE WOMEN OF AFGHANISTAN UNDER VIRTUAL HOUSE ARREST! REFUGEES FROM KOSOVO ARE FREEZING IN THE MOUNTAINS! WHAT ABOUT THE BIG PICTURE?

GOOD POINT. I'LL SURF AROUND AND GET SOME INTERNATIONAL PERSPECTIVE ON THE CIGAR INCIDENT.



JEZANNA, IN A GRUDGING ACT OF FILIAL DUTY, HAS OPENED UP HER HOME TO HER BEREAVED FATHER.

MR. PRESIDENT, WOULD INSERTING THE OVAL OFFICE FLAGPOLE IN SOMEONE'S GENITALIA FALL UNDER YOUR DEFINITION OF SEX?



AND IN A QUASI-MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE, STUART HAS TAKEN LODGINGS WITH SPARROW AND THE GIRLS.

STOP! I CAN'T TAKE ANY MORE! IT'S EXCRUCIATING!

I FEEL SO... SO DEBASED!

GOD, WATCHING SOMEONE BEING HUMILIATED IS REALLY HUMILIATING!

SO, TURN IT OFF! WHY ARE YOU ALL SITTING THERE, COMPLETELY RAPT?



MR. PRESIDENT, IS IT TRUE THAT YOU SPORT A PRINCE ALBERT PIERCING?

WELL... THAT DEPENDS ON WHAT YOU MEAN BY 'SPORT'...

WHAT'S WRONG, STU? DOES OUR PRACTICE OF SADO-MONICAISM MAKE YOU SQUEAMISH?



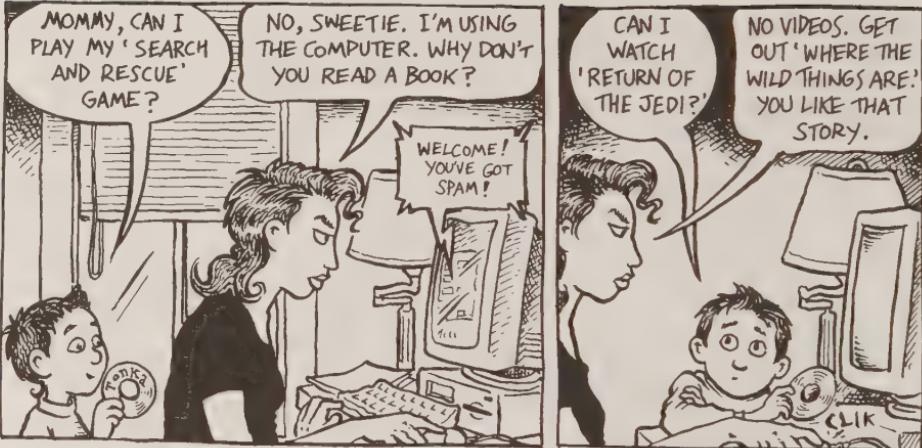
SIR, IT'S NOT OUR INTENT TO EMBARRASS YOU, BUT WILL YOU PLEASE DROP TROU?

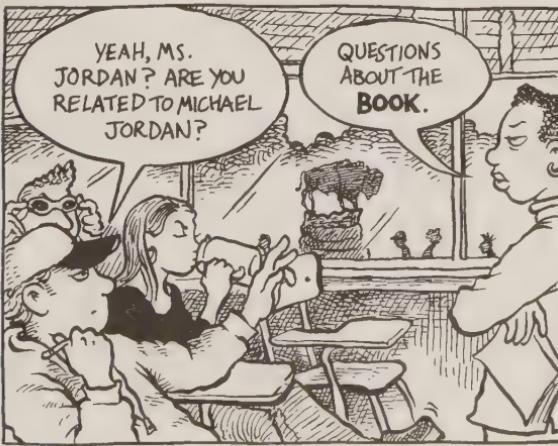
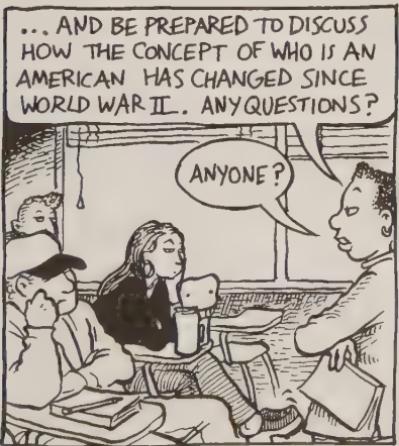
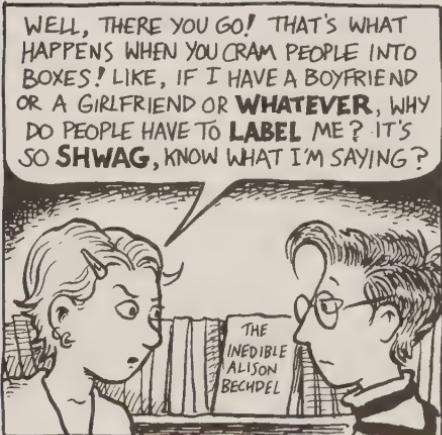
youth wants to know

RAFFI'S
BEEN
MANIFESTING
SOME
CURIOS
NEW
TRAITS
SINCE
KINDER-
GARTEN
BEGAN.

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The BIRTH of OUTRAGE

©1998 BY ALISON BECHDEL

300

M'o's
MATER-
FAMILIAS
RINGS UP
DURING
BUSINESS
HOURS.



WHAT IS IT ABOUT THE MATTHEW SHEPARD MURDER? QUEERS HAVE BEEN GETTING BASHED AND KILLED FOR EONS AND NOBODY BLINKED!



NOW ALL OF A SUDDEN WE'RE LAPEL RIBBON OF THE WEEK! EVERYONE'S APPALLED!



UH...DON'T WORRY. NOT QUITE EVERYONE.

WAIT. YOU'RE, LIKE, ANGRY BECAUSE PEOPLE ARE REACTING THE WAY THEY SHOULD?



NO! I'M THRILLED THEY GET IT. IT JUST PISSES ME OFF FOR ALL THE TIMES THEY DIDN'T. I MEAN, WHY NOW?

IS IT BECAUSE THE ATTACK WAS SO VIOLENT? BECAUSE YEARS OF ACTIVISM ARE FINALLY PAYING OFF? BECAUSE HE WAS A CLEAN-CUT COLLEGE KID AND NOT A DRAG QUEEN?



GOD! YOU'RE ANALYZING IT LIKE IT'S A CHESS GAME! WHERE'S YOUR RAGE AT THE KILLERS? WHERE'S YOUR RAGE AT THE PARENTS AND POLITICIANS AND PREACHERS WHO TAUGHT THEM TO HATE?



SOPHIE, I'VE BEEN FILLED WITH RAGE SINCE YOU WERE A TWINKLE IN YOUR SPERM DONOR'S EYE.

CONSERVATIVE ESTIMATE.

buyer's remorse

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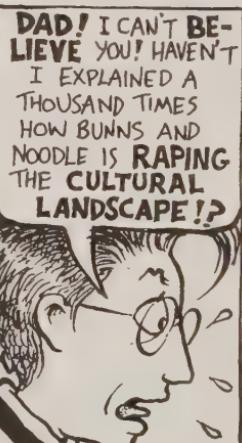
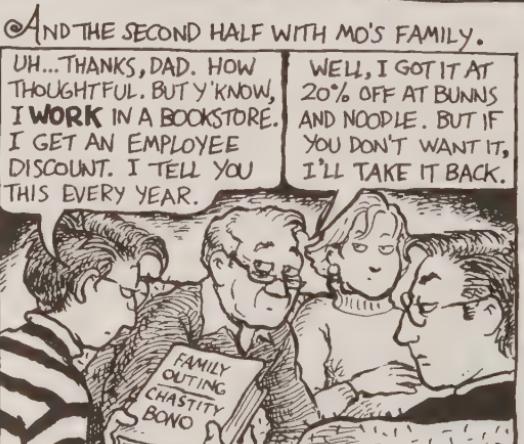
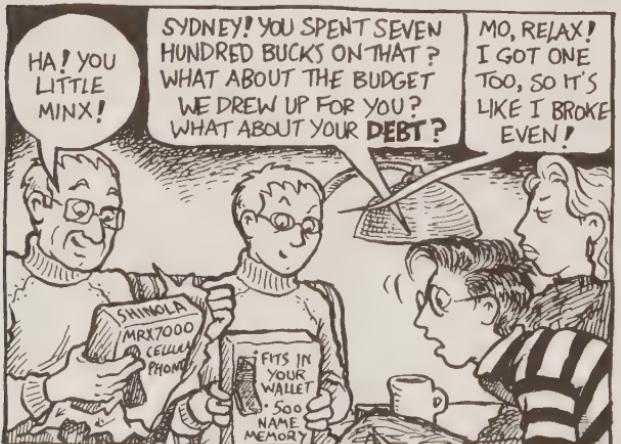
The **DRAMA** *of the* **GIFTED** **CHILD**



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302

Mo and Sydney decide to spend the first half of their Christmas vacation with Sydney's father and step-mother.





...like it's 1999

303

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IT'S NEW YEAR'S EVE. MO AND SYDNEY HAVE JUST RETURNED FROM VISITING THEIR FAMILIES, AND IN CONSEQUENCE ARE FEELING A BIT FRACTIOUS.

JEEZ, SPARROW AND STU DIDN'T CLEAN OUT THE CAT BOX ONCE WHILE THEY WERE HERE.

GOD, MY KEYBOARD'S ALL STICKY. LOOKS LIKE THEY WERE MESSING AROUND ON MY COMPUTER, TOO.

THEY LEFT THIS INVITATION TO THEIR NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY. WANNA GO?

UH... SURE. I HOPE THEY DIDN'T GO SNOOPING IN MY FILES.

MEANWHILE, PARTY PREPARATIONS ARE AFOOT...

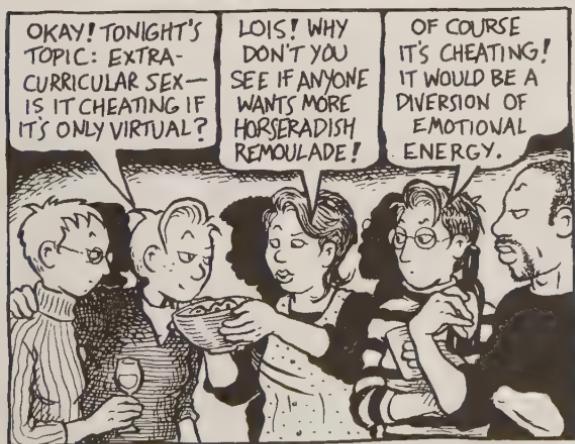
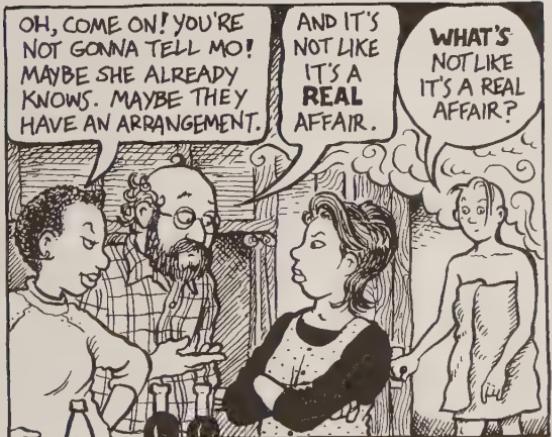
SYDNEY'S HAVING A VIRTUAL AFFAIR? WHO CARES? AND WHAT WERE YOU DOING ON HER COMPUTER?

IT'S MY FAULT. I WAS LOOKING FOR GAMES. YOU KNOW, NASCAR RACING! SOLITAIRE! BUT IN THE FOLDER LABELED 'GAMES...'.

...THERE WERE ALL THESE LOGS OF WILD ONLINE SEX WITH ANOTHER WOMAN. SOMEONE NAMED 'GOOD THING.'

HOW DO YOU KNOW IT'S A WOMAN? FOR ALL YOU KNOW, IT COULD BE CHRISTINE TODD WHITMAN. BESIDES WHICH, IT'S NONE OF OUR BUSINESS.

OH. SO IF STUART HAD SOME BIMBO OVER WHILE I WAS AWAY, YOU WOULDN'T BOTHER MENTIONING IT TO ME?

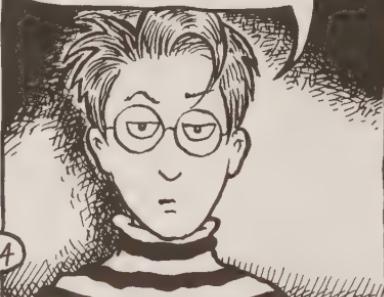


leadership vacuum

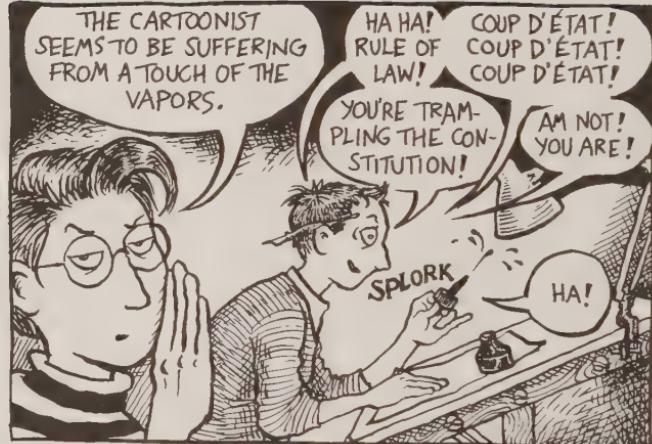
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304

HEY, HOW'S IT GOING? LISTEN, I HAVE TO ASK YOU TO BEAR WITH US. WE'RE EXPERIENCING SOME TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES WITH THE STRIP.



THE CARTOONIST
SEEMS TO BE SUFFERING
FROM A TOUCH OF THE
VAPORS.



IT'S BEEN A ROUGH WEEK, WHAT WITH ALL THE BREAKING NEWS.

NINA?
COOKIE?
CAN YOU
HEAR ME?



WHEN WE STARTED OUT, THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE HAD JUST PASSED ARTICLES OF IMPEACHMENT.

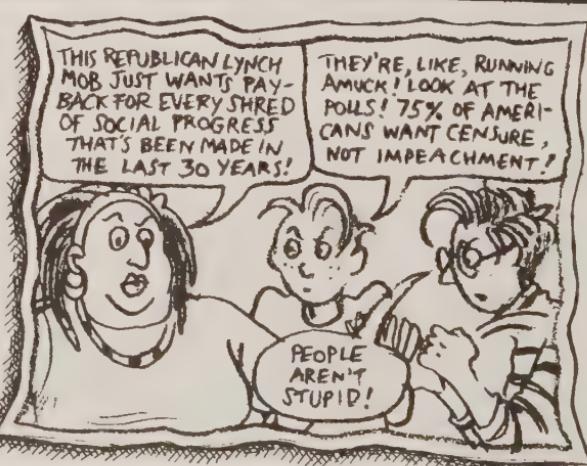
NOT GERMANE!



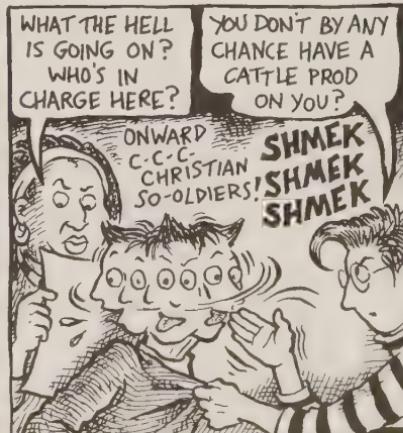
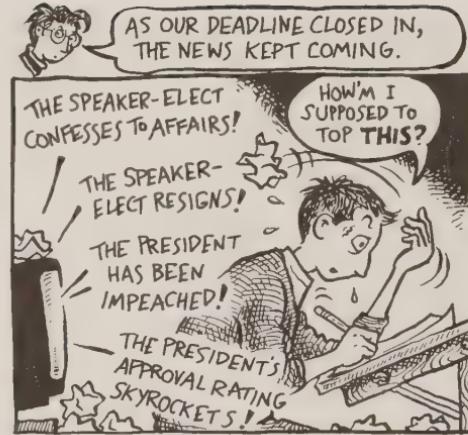
THIS REPUBLICAN LYNCH MOB JUST WANTS PAYBACK FOR EVERY SHRED OF SOCIAL PROGRESS THAT'S BEEN MADE IN THE LAST 30 YEARS!

THEY'RE LIKE, RUNNING AMUCK! LOOK AT THE POLLS! 75% OF AMERICANS WANT CENSURE, NOT IMPEACHMENT!

PEOPLE
AREN'T
STUPID!



BUT THEN CLINTON DECIDED TO BUY SOME TIME BY BLOWING UP BAGHDAD, SO IT WAS BACK TO THE, UH... DRAWING BOARD.

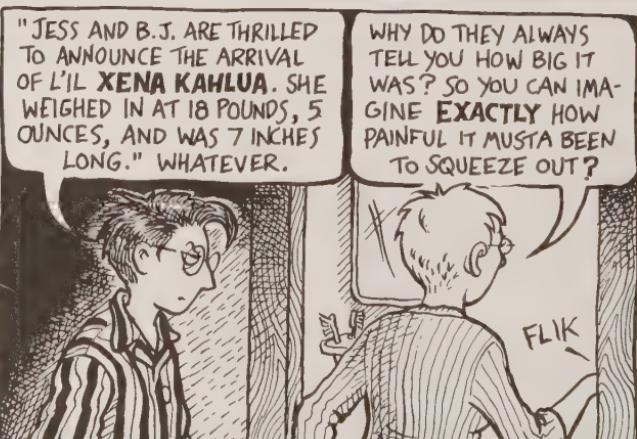


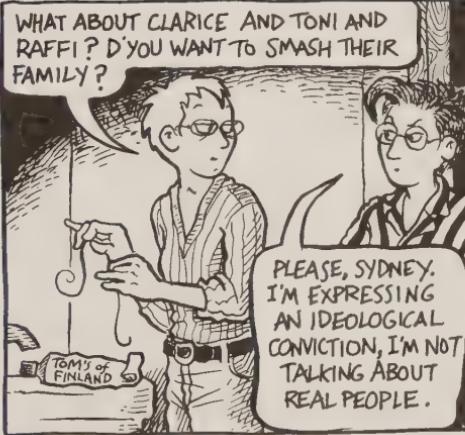
the baby question

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305

© WHAT'S
SYDNEY
DOING ON
HER
COMPUTER
SO LATE AT
NIGHT?





drugstore cowpokes

©1999 BY ALISON BECHDEL

ONE SNOWY SATURDAY MORN...

SHE MIGHT
BE WHAT?

SHH! SHE
DOESN'T WANT
STUART TO KNOW
TILL SHE'S SURE.

306

I CAN'T BELIEVE SHE TOLD
YOU AND NOT HIM! YOU
DIDN'T GET HER PREGNANT!

LOIS,
KEEP IT
DOWN!

OH, RELAX. HE
WENT OUT WHILE
YOU WERE WALKING
DIGGER. SO WHAT'S
SPARROW GONNA DO?

I DON'T KNOW.
SHE WAS PRETTY
WIGGED OUT. I
KNEW ALL THIS
HETEROSEXUALITY
WOULD COME TO
NO GOOD.

ALL I HAVE TO SAY IS,
IF THEY BRING A BABY
INTO THIS HOUSE, THEY'RE
DAMN WELL GONNA PAY
MORE OF THE EXPENSES.

MEAN-
WHILE,
DOWN
AT THE
LOCAL
PHAR-
MACY...

I'M SICK OF MESSING AROUND
WITH YOGURT. I WONDER IF THIS
STUFF THEY'RE ALWAYS ADVER-
TISING ON "MARTHA STEWART
LIVING" WILL KILL ME?

...F...G...
AH, THERE WE
GO. PREPA-
RATION H!





Gossip Failure

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307

HEY! GUESS WHO'S PICKING
UP A FEW PREGNANCY TESTS!

Pillz a Poppin' Rx



Don't forget
Valentine's Day

ANNUAL
TRUSS
SALE!
15% OFF

1156

...THIS IS JERRI GROSZ
WITH FRESH HAIR.

SPARROW.

HOW DID
YOU
KNOW?
GINGER
JUST TOLD
ME.

TODAY I'LL BE TALKING WITH
A GAY MAN IN THE ENTERTAIN-
TAINMENT INDUSTRY...

... TO WHOSE EVERY
THROAT-CLEARING I
WILL RESPOND WITH A
COQUETTISH TITTER.

OKAY, BABE.
LATER.

GOD, I HATE
THAT PHONE.

... AND LATER IN THE HOUR,
DAVID BEYONDCOOLGUY
WILL EXPLORE THE DANTEQUE
IMAGERY OF "TOUCHED BY
AN ANGEL."

Shortly...

MORNING, JEZ!
HEY, GUESS WHO I JUST
SAW AT THE DRUGSTORE
SHOPPING FOR PREG-
NANCY TESTS!

MADWIMMWA
BOOKS

OPEN

MO, I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR
YOUR FOOLISHNESS. THE
BOOK BUSINESS IS CONSOL-
IDATING FASTER THAN
THERMONUCLEAR FUSION,
AND I'VE GOT A STORE TO
KEEP SOLVENT.

GOD! TAKE A BREAK
ONCE IN A WHILE!
YOU ACT LIKE THE
FUTURE OF DEMO-
CRACY RESTS ON
YOUR SHOULDERS.

BUNNS & NOODLE
BUYS LEADING
WHOLESALE
SUPPLIER TO
INDEPENDENT
BOOKSTORES

YOU THINK IT DOESN'T? JUST WAIT TILL THOUSANDS OF DIVERSE, LOVINGLY TENDED INDEPENDENT BOOKSTORES GET REPLACED BY GENERIC CHAINS, SUBLITERATE BEAN COUNTER DOWN AT CORPORATE HQ SELECTING ALL THE TITLES!



YOU CAN SAY GOODBYE TO BOOKS BY RISKY OR UNPROVEN AUTHORS, LIKE THE ONES I'VE BEEN HAND-SELLING OUR CUSTOMERS FOR YEARS. WE'LL ALL BE UP TO OUR CEREBRAL CORTEXES IN "CELINE DION'S TITANIC CHEESECAKE RECIPES!"



AND DON'T COME WHINING TO ME ABOUT THE FUTURE OF DEMOCRACY WHEN NO ONE WILL PUBLISH YOUR SCATHING INDICTMENT OF THE BOOK INDUSTRY!



A BIT LATER...

WELL, LOOK WHO'S SLUMMING! WHAT BRINGS YOU THREE IN FROM THE LAND OF CHEMLAWN?



NICE TO SEE THE INCREASED COMPETITION HASN'T AFFECTED YOUR CUSTOMER RELATIONS SKILLS.

WE JUST STOPPED IN TO HEAR THE LATEST DISH...ER, I MEAN, TO SUPPORT OUR LOCAL INDEPENDENT BOOKSELLER.

WELL, HAVE I GOT SOME NEWS FOR YOU. GUESS WHO WAS RECENTLY SPOTTED PURCHASING A HOME PREGNANCY TEST!



HARRIET! I KNOW! ISN'T IT WONDERFUL?!!



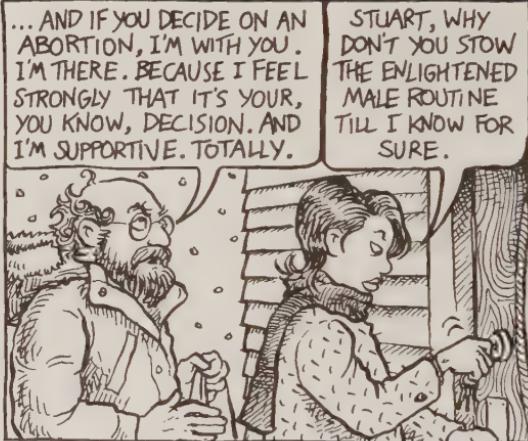
UH... IT'S BEEN 7 YEARS, BABE. I THINK THE STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS HAS RUN OUT ON USE OF THE POSSESSIVE.

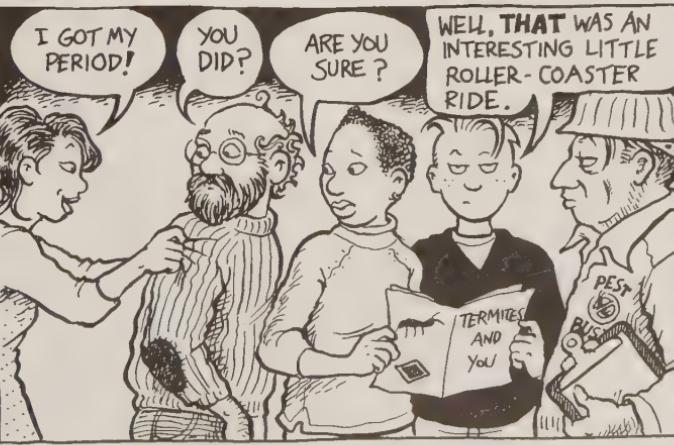
pestered

SPARROW
AND
STUART
RETURN
HOME
TOGETHER
AFTER A
CHANCE
ENCOUN-
TER AT
THE DRUG
STORE.

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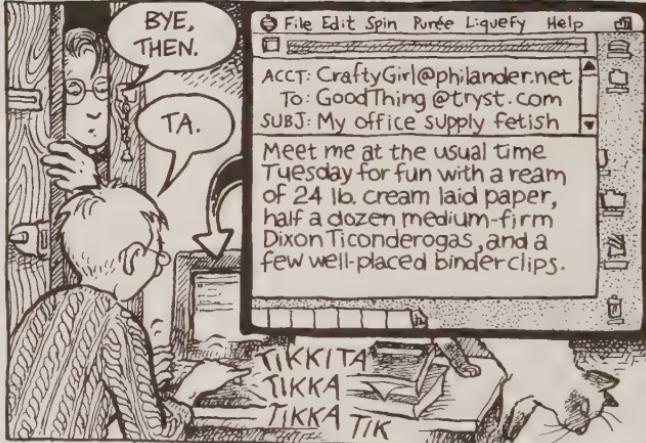




in the family way

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A BIT LATER...

WHEN DID YOU PLAN ON TELLING ME, HARRIET? WHEN THE CONTRACTIONS WERE A MINUTE APART?

LOOK, I KNOW YOU HAVE STRONG FEELINGS ABOUT... WELL, ABOUT EVERYTHING. BUT ESPECIALLY ABOUT THIS. I DIDN'T WANT TO TELL YOU TILL AFTER I WAS PREGNANT.



SAY IT'S NOT TRUE! TELL ME YOU'RE NOT GONNA BECOME ONE OF THOSE "WE'RE JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE" CLONES!



IF THE CHRISTIAN RIGHT WERE SMART, THEY'D CONVERT ALL THOSE EX-GAY OPERATIONS TO LESBIAN-FRIENDLY SPERM BANKS. THEY'D HAVE US ALL SO BUSY ECSTATICALLY PUMPING BREAST MILK, WE'D NEVER NOTICE THEM TAKING OVER THE WHOLE FREAKING WORLD.





Happy Hour

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©AH...THE DAY'S TOIL IS DONE, AND OUR WEARY LABORERS CAN RELAX IN THE RESTORATIVE CAMARADERIE OF THEIR FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS, AND FAMILY.

©AT THE 'Y...

HEY, CARLOS. HAVEN'T SEEN YOU HERE IN A WHILE.

I KNOW. I GOT A JOB AS A DATA ENTRY GRUNT AT KRAKATOA INSURANCE, WORKING ON THEIR Y2K PROBLEM. LOOK, MY ARMS HAVE TURNED TO CAPELLINI.

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT WHAT'LL HAPPEN WHEN THE CLOCK STRIKES 12 ON JANUARY FIRST?

OH, I'LL JUST FIND SOME OTHER DEAD-END JOB, I GUESS.

NO, I MEAN ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT COMPUTER FAILURE, POWER LOSS, LOOTING, PARALYZED EMERGENCY SERVICES, RUNS ON THE BANK...



...THE ACCIDENTAL LAUNCH OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS WHEN THEIR WARNING SYSTEMS FAIL, THE RELEASE OF LETHAL RADIOACTIVITY INTO THE ATMOSPHERE WHEN THE ELECTRICAL GRID IS OUT FOR MORE THAN A FEW DAYS AND NUCLEAR REACTORS START TO MELT DOWN? THAT SORT OF THING.

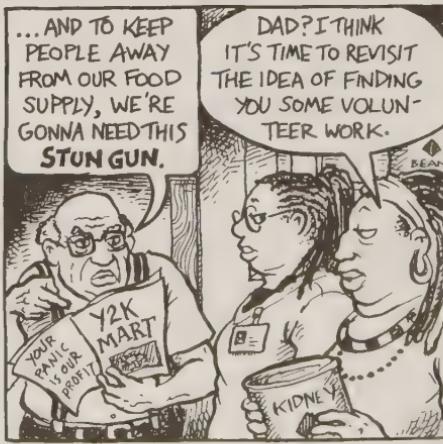


UM... ACTUALLY, I HADN'T GIVEN IT MUCH THOUGHT.

THAT'S THE SPIRIT. NO SENSE IN PANICKING. THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO AT THIS POINT, ANYWAY.

THERE'S NOT?





the Sensuous Bookshop

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ONE AFTERNOON AT MADWIMMIN BOOKS...

DID YOU FIND ABSOLUTELY EVERYTHING YOU'RE LOOKING FOR?

UH... YES. THANKS. I'M ALL SET.

SO DIANE, I'VE NEVER BEEN TO A VEGAN SEDER BEFORE. WHAT DO WE DO ABOUT THE SHANK BONE?



OH, WE JUST USE PART OF AN OLD TOY DINOSAUR SKELETON. BUT THE EGG-LESS MATZO BALLS ARE LIKE EATING LEAD SHOT.

Y'KNOW, IF YOU LIKE THIS BOOK, YOU'LL LOVE THE NEW EROTICA ANTHOLOGY, "HOT AND BUTTERED."



THEA, I'M JUST TRYING TO PROVIDE A SERVICE.

I LIVE TO SERVICE. I MEAN, TO SERVE.

I'LL FINISH THIS. WHY DON'T YOU GO TIDY UP THE BUMPER STICKER DISPLAY.



IN THE BACK...

AFTER I WATER THE PLANTS, SHOULD I FILL THE WEB ORDERS?

DON'T BOTHER. THERE AREN'T ANY. AND DO YOU KNOW WHY?

BECAUSE IF YOU DO A SEARCH FOR OUR WEB SITE, AN AD FOR THE ONLINE BOOKSELLING BEHEMOTH medusa.com SHOWS UP ON THE PAGE.

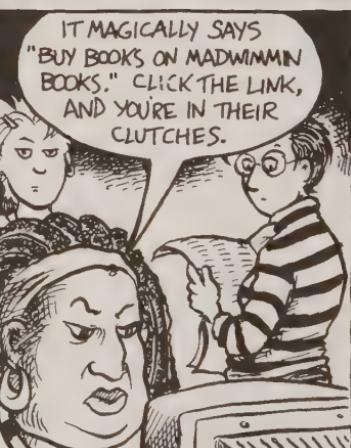
DON'T BOTHER. THERE AREN'T ANY. AND DO YOU KNOW WHY?

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DON'T BOTHER. THERE AREN'T ANY. AND DO YOU KNOW WHY?

BECAUSE IF YOU DO A SEARCH FOR OUR WEB SITE, AN AD FOR THE ONLINE BOOKSELLING BEHEMOTH medusa.com SHOWS UP ON THE PAGE.

IT MAGICALY SAYS "BUY BOOKS ON MADWIMMIN BOOKS." CLICK THE LINK, AND YOU'RE IN THEIR CLUTCHES.





a just war?
or
just a war?

Mo's GOT A TOUCH OF WHIPLASH LATELY.

GOD! HOW CAN YOU LOOK AT THESE PICTURES OF TERRORIZED REFUGEES AND NOT WANT TO GO OVER THERE AND TAKE MILOSEVIC OUT?



312

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UH... DIDN'T YOU HEAR THE LATEST? US JETS MASSACRED A CONVOY OF REFUGEES WITH CLUSTER BOMBS BY MISTAKE. IT'S ALL OVER THE NEWS.



WIMMIWAM
BOOKS

AT LUNCH...

HAVEN'T WE LEARNED? YOU CAN'T STOP VIOLENCE WITH MORE VIOLENCE! SO FAR, ALL THE BOMBING HAS DONE IS KILL MORE PEOPLE AND ESCALATE THE SERBS' ATROCITIES!



WIMMIWAM
BOOKS

SO WHAT DO YOU SUGGEST? THAT WE SEND A SQUADRON OF **QUAKERS** OVER THERE? FACE IT, LEFTIST CLICHÉS AREN'T GONNA KEEP PEOPLE FROM BEING RAPED AND SHOT AND DRAGGED FROM THEIR HOMES.



CHIPS
SALT-TINES

AT WORK...

WE'RE BEING MANIPULATED BY THE PRESS! WHERE'S THE BALANCED COVERAGE? WHERE'S THE FOOTAGE OF ALL THE CIVILIANS MANGLED BY NATO BOMBS?



WIMMIWAM
BOOKS

BACK AT WORK...

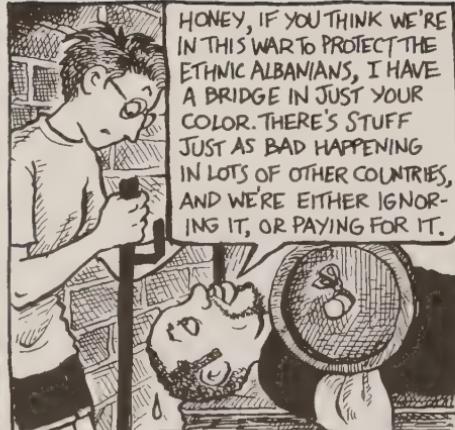
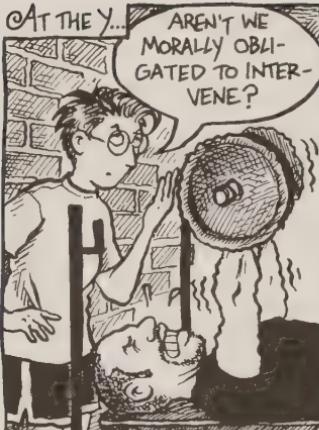
I MEAN, THIS IS GENOCIDE! WE SHOULD USE WHATEVER FORCE IS NECESSARY TO STOP IT!



BOOKS

"ETHNIC CLEANSING" IS A TERRIBLE THING, BUT IT'S NOT THE SAME AS GENOCIDE. AND WHEN OFFICIALS TOSS THAT WORD AROUND FOR SPIN CONTROL, IT'S AN INSULT TO VICTIMS OF THE NAZIS, TO NATIVE AMERICANS, TO THE TUTSIS...

I THINK IT'S AN INSULT NOT TO CALL THIS GENOCIDE. AS A KID I ASKED MY GRANDPARENTS WHY THEY DIDN'T DO ANYTHING AFTER THEY FOUND OUT ABOUT THE HOLOCAUST. I'D BE A HYPOCRITE NOT TO SUPPORT GROUND TROOPS NOW.



OVER DINNER WITH LOIS & GINGER...

BOMBING YUGOSLAVIA IS IMMORAL! NATO DOESN'T GIVE A SHIT ABOUT THE ETHNIC ALBANIANS OR HUMAN RIGHTS. IT'S JUST WORRIED ABOUT "GEOPOLEITICAL STABILITY," WHICH IS NEWSPEAK FOR "WAL*MART."

BUT WHO CARES WHAT NATO'S MOTIVATION IS IF IT STOPS MILOSEVIC? WE'RE ON THE VICTIM'S SIDE FOR ONCE. LET'S KICK FASCIST BUTT!

GOOD IDEA, LOIS. DECIMATING THE COUNTRY SHOULD BE A BIG BOOST TO THE MOVEMENT FOR DEMOCRACY.

AND BACK AT HOME...

Y'KNOW, YOU WERE TOTALLY RIGHT. I DON'T KNOW WHAT I WAS THINKING, BUT I'VE COME BACK TO MY PACIFIST SENSES.

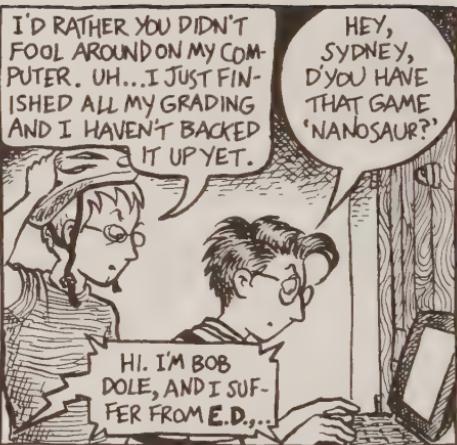
GOD! SOMEONE'S GOTTA TAKE THIS GUY OUT!



dustup

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©MEANWHILE, IN ANOTHER TAX BRACKET...

YEAH, ANN WAS OVERREACTING ABOUT THE CIRCUMCISION DISCUSSION. IT'S NOT RIGHT TO KEEP THE BOYS APART JUST BECAUSE THE GROWN-UPS HAVE A DISAGREEMENT.

WELL, I THINK TONI FLEW OFF THE HANDLE A BIT HERSELF. SO RAFFI CAN STILL GO TO THE **STAR WARS** MOVIE WITH YOU SATURDAY?



OF COURSE! SO HOW'S THE "ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE" RACKET?

PRETTY GOOD. WE JUST TOOK ON A SUIT AGAINST A REAL DIRT-BAG DEVELOPER. THIS GUY SOLD LAND TO THE CITY FOR LOW INCOME HOUSING THIRTY YEARS AGO, AND DIDN'T MENTION IT USED TO BE A PETROCHEMICAL DUMP.



NO KID-DING.

YEAH. AND NOT ONLY THAT, HIS LAWYERS CLAIM THE REASON THERE'S SO MUCH CANCER AMONG THE RESIDENTS IS BECAUSE THEY **SMOKE** MORE THAN AVERAGE! CAN YOU BELIEVE THOSE MORAL IMBECILES?



SOUNDS LIKE A PERFECTLY REASONABLE DEFENSE TO ME. THESE CANCER CLUSTERS ARE NOTORIOUSLY DIFFICULT TO TRACE TO AN UNDERLYING ENVIRONMENTAL CAUSE.

THANKS FOR THE VOTE OF CONFIDENCE, BILL. YOU SHOULD REPRESENT THIS GUY.



I ALREADY DO. AND ON SECOND THOUGHT, I'D RATHER GO ALONE WITH BILLY TO "EPISODE ONE." YOU KNOW. DO SOME FATHER-SON BONDING.



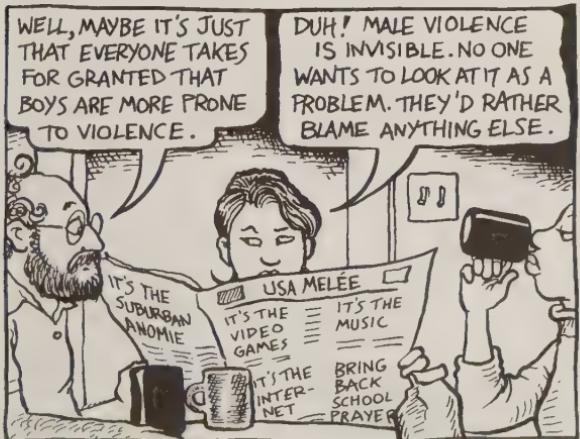
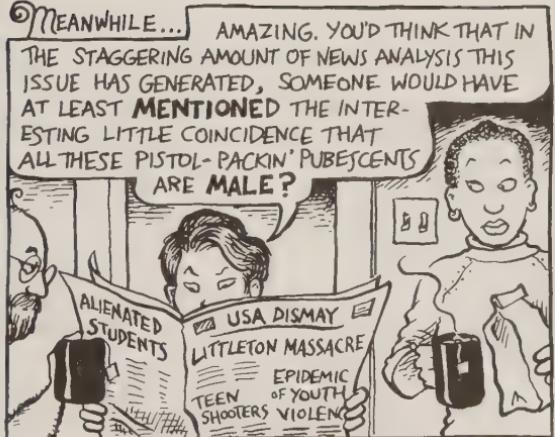
PERFECT! MAYBE YOU CAN LURE HIM OVER TO THE DARK SIDE OF THE FORCE WITH YOU!



boy trouble

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Task-mistress

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HAVING TROUBLE FINDING ROOM IN YOUR INSANE SCHEDULE FOR ALL THE ELEMENTS OF A FULL, BALANCED LIFE?

MULTITASK ALONG WITH GINGER!

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WHILE KNOCKING OFF HER RESPONSIBILITIES AS A DUTIFUL DAUGHTER, A CARING PET OWNER, AND A CONSCIENTIOUS NEIGHBOR, SHE KEEPS UP WITH THE LATEST NEWS!



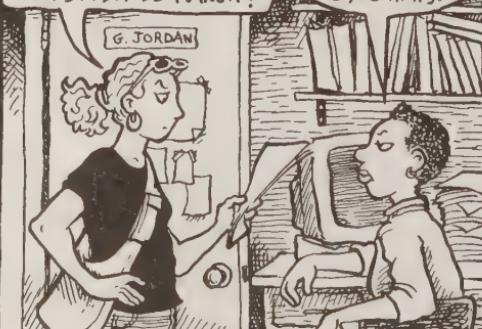
AND WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY BREAKFASTING AND COMMUTING TO WORK, SHE DOES HER POLITICAL ACTIVISM!

THANK YOU FOR CALLING THE BUDWEISER HOTLINE. YOUR VOTE IN FAVOR OF OUR GAY-THEMED ADS HAS BEEN DULY COUNTED.



TEACHING COLLEGE ENGLISH IS ALL-CONSUMING, BUT GINGER RENEWS HERSELF ON THE JOB WITH SPIRITUALLY CENTERING VISUALIZATION EXERCISES!

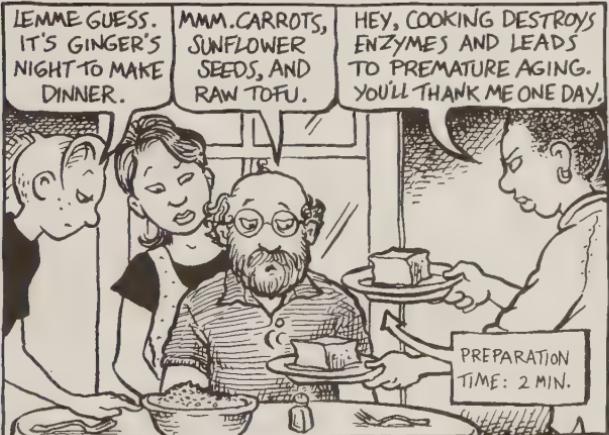
MS. JORDAN? ABOUT THIS C-MINUS ON MY PAPER? I MEAN, DON'T YOU THINK THAT'S A LITTLE HARSH?



HEY, I GOT THIS FROM A VERY REPUTABLE SOURCE! COME ON, LET'S SPLIT THE DIFFERENCE AND CALL IT A 'B.' I'M PAYING YOUR SALARY HERE.



AT HOME, SHE SUCCESSFULLY JUGGLES HER OBLIGATIONS AS A COLLECTIVE HOUSEHOLD MEMBER AND HER COMMITMENT TO A NURTURING DIET OF WHOLE, UNPROCESSED FOODS.



• MANY OF US END UP PUTTING EXERCISE AND INTIMATE TIME WITH FRIENDS ON THE BACK BURNER, BUT NOT GINGER!



NOT THE POINT, GINGER. WILL YOU PAY ATTENTION? I THINK SHE'S HIDING SOMETHING FROM ME!



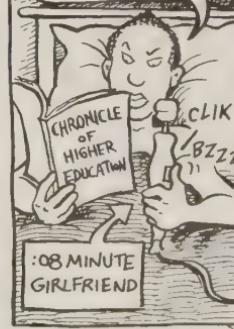
COULD YOU MOVE YOUR HEAD? LOOK-OOF! JUST BECAUSE SHE DOESN'T WANT YOU PANTÉ POKING AROUND IN HER FILES DOESN'T MEAN SHE'S HAVING A >HUFF- TORRID ONLINE AFFAIR!

WHAT? WHO SAID ANYTHING ABOUT AN **ONLINE AFFAIR**? WHAT DO YOU KNOW?



• WHILE STAYING CURRENT IN HER FIELD, OUR WELL-ROUNDED GAL CHECKS ONE LAST TASK OFF THE LIST!

GOOD THING I'M NOT IN A RELATIONSHIP! I'D NEVER GET ANYTHING DONE.



idle hands

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AH, SUMMER VACATION! HAGGARD AND SPARROW AND GINGER FINALLY GET SOME TIME OFF TO RE-CUPERATE.

THEIR HOUSE, THAT IS.

GOD, I HOPE THIS ISN'T LEAD PAINT. I DON'T HAVE ANY BRAIN CELLS TO SPARE.

SPEAKING OF ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARDS...



WAL-MART, AFTER BECOMING THE NATION'S SECOND LARGEST DRUG RETAILER...

HOW'S OUR FRIEND SYDNEY? HAS SHE DUMPED MO FOR THE CYBERSLUT YET?

OH, COME ON! YOU STILL THINK SYDNEY'S HAVING AN AF-FAIR JUST BECAUSE...



... BY PUTTING SCORES OF SMALLER STORES OUT OF BUSINESS.

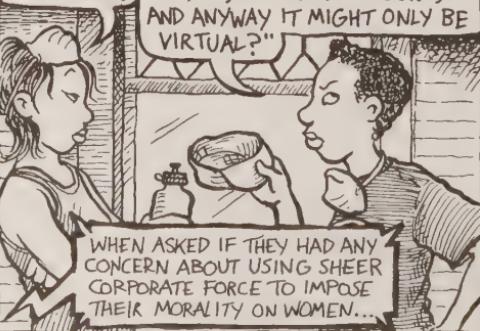
JUST BECAUSE OF THOSE ONLINE CAPERS WITH LITTLE MISS "GOOD-THING" I FOUND ON HER COMPUTER? WAKE UP, GINGER!

YEAH, WELL, YOU MAY BE RIGHT AFTER ALL. MO SAYS SYDNEY'S BEEN ACTING WEIRD LATELY, SECRETIVE.



NOW DO YOU AGREE WE SHOULD WARN HER?

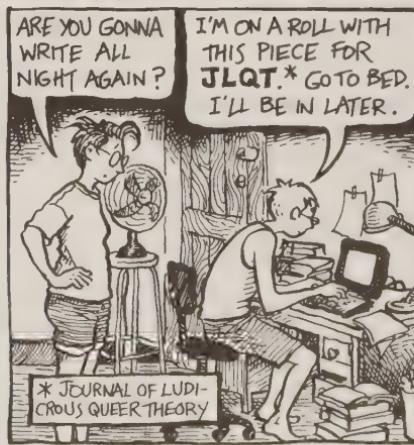
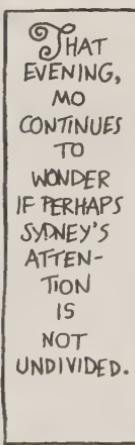
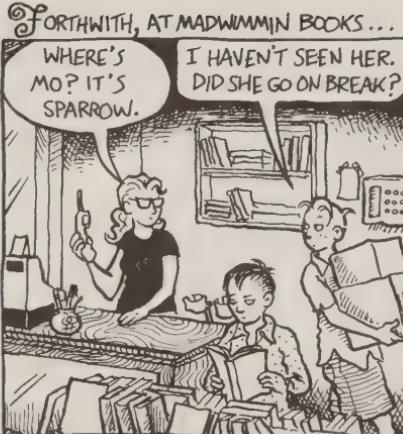
OH, SPARROW! WHAT WOULD WE SAY? "WE THINK YOUR GIRLFRIEND'S SCREWING AROUND ON YOU, BUT WE'RE NOT SURE, AND ANYWAY IT MIGHT ONLY BE VIRTUAL?"



VIRTUAL SCHMIRTUAL. HOW LONG WILL THAT LAST? YOU KNOW WHAT LESBIANS ARE LIKE. THEY'LL CHAT ONLINE, THEY'LL PHONE, THEY'LL MEET, THEN SYDNEY'S OUTTA HERE.



... BY LIMITING AVAILABLE HEALTH CARE OPTIONS, A WALMART SPOKESMAN HAD THIS TO SAY:



bewitched,
bothered,
&
betrayed

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Mo's
HAVING
TROUBLE
FALLING
ASLEEP
WHILE
SYDNEY'S
STILL UP
DOING
GOD KNOWS
WHAT ON
HER
COMPUTER.



GREAT. WORKING FOR A MULTI-NATIONAL BIOCHEMICAL CORPORATION THAT'S FORCING THE WORLD TO SWALLOW ITS **TRANSGENIC CROPS** IS A VALID CAREER OPTION AS LONG AS YOU'RE OUT 'N PROUD!



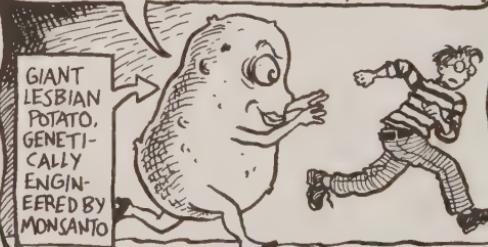
DID I HAVE TO
LIVE TO SEE THE PRIN-
CIPLES OF LESBIAN-FEM-
INISM BETRAYED SO
UTTERLY?



WHO NEEDS A
401(K)? I'VE GOT
MY INTEGRITY...



COME HERE, MY LITTLE FRENCH FRY! LEAVE THAT LOW-RENT JOB AND JOIN THE **BIO-FOOD** INDUSTRY! WE'LL MAKE BILLIONS ON OUR **MUTANT VEGETABLES** BEFORE THE UNKNOWN HEALTH EFFECTS AND RESISTANT **SUPERBUGS** WREAK PLANETARY DEVASTATION!





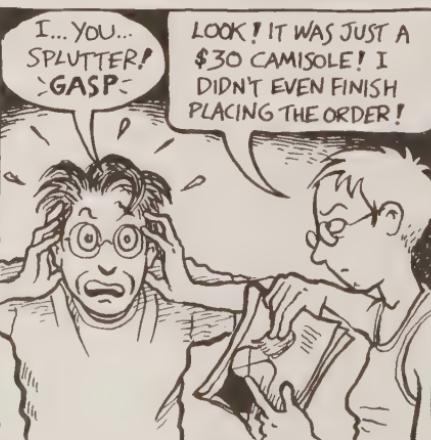
HEY, I GOTTA RUN. SOMEONE'S AT THE DOOR.

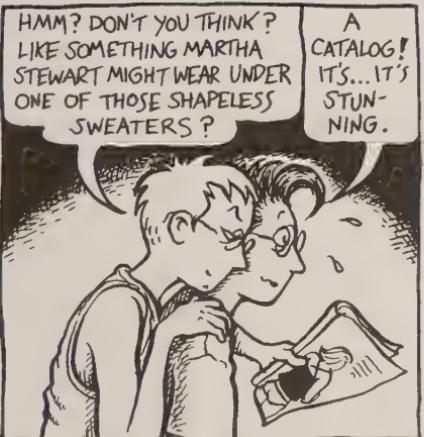
busted

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Mo has just discovered Sydney engaged in a discussion of intimate undergarments with an as-yet-unidentified third party in the hall closet at 3 AM.





NEXT DAY AT MADWIMMIN BOOKS, GINGER & SPARROW ARRIVE A BIT EARLY FOR THEIR LUNCHEON ENGAGEMENT WITH MO.

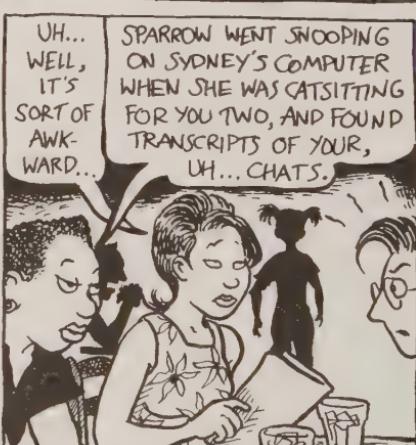
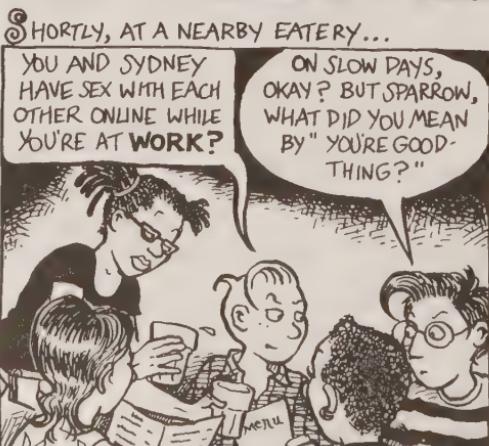
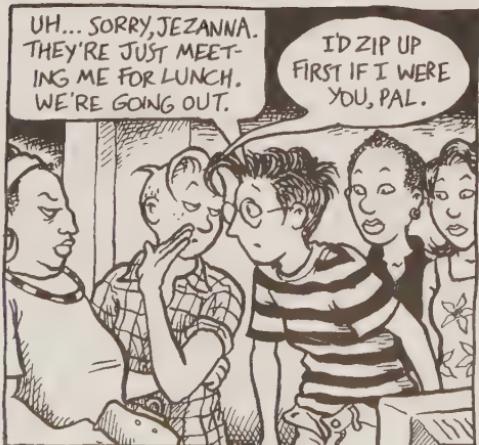


FRIENDS LIKE THESE

Mo has been caught in a rather compromising position with the old computer.

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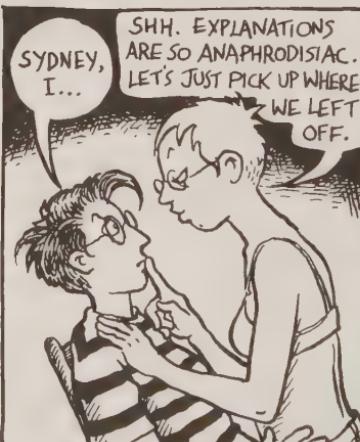


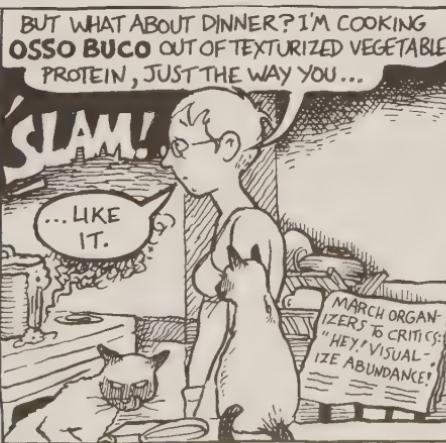
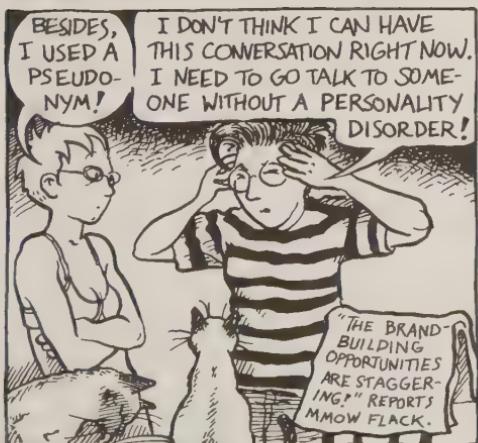
LATEST EXPLOITS

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Mo HAS JUST LEARNED THAT SYDNEY PUBLISHED A PARTICULARLY PRURIENT PORTION OF THEIR ONLINE INTERCOURSE IN "PANTHOUSE" MAGAZINE.

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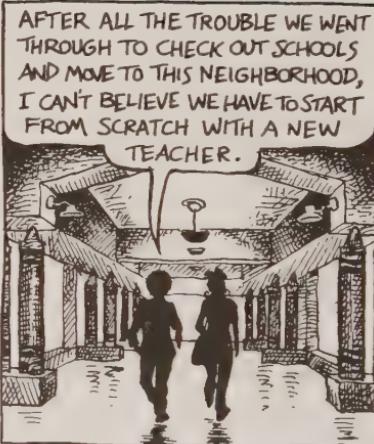


MOTHER WIT

A VISIT TO THE LOCAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL STIRS UP FOND MEMORIES FOR CLARICE.

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LOOK, SO THAT NICE MS. McKECHNIE TOOK EARLY RETIREMENT. STUFF HAPPENS, CLARICE. DON'T TURN THIS INTO ANOTHER ARGUMENT FOR WHY WE SHOULD HAVE STAYED IN THE CITY.



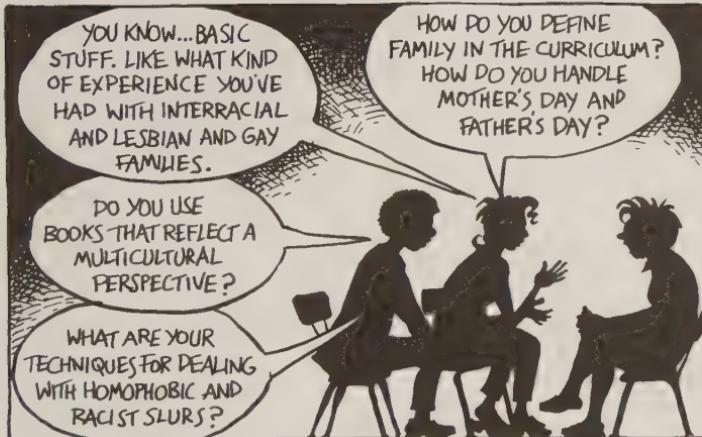
MS. PETERSON?
HI, I'M TONI ORTIZ,
AND THIS IS MY
PARTNER, CLARICE
CLIFFORD.



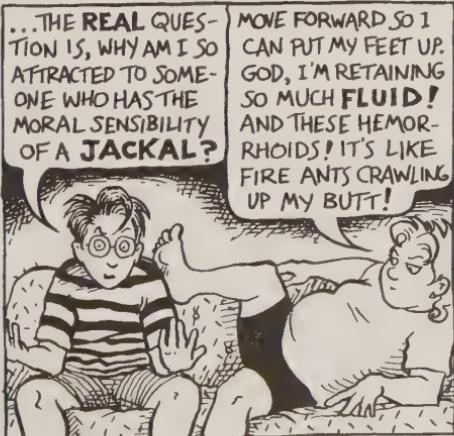
WE'RE RAFAEL CLIFFORD-
ORTIZ'S PARENTS. HE'LL BE
ONE OF YOUR STUDENTS
THIS YEAR.

WE JUST THOUGHT WE'D
DROP IN AND GET TO KNOW
YOU A LITTLE BEFORE SCHOOL
STARTS, ASK YOU A FEW
QUESTIONS.





MEANWHILE, MO, STILL BRUISED FROM SYDNEY'S "PANTHOUSE" PERFIDY, TURNS FOR SUCCOR TO HER TRUSTY EX, HARRIET.

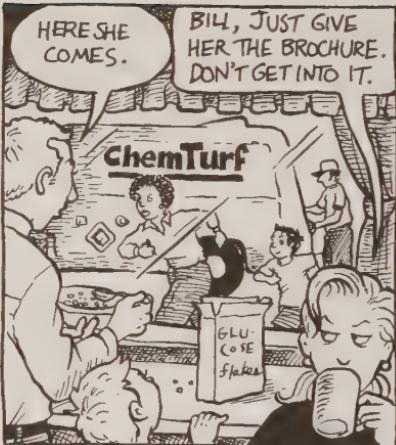


CHEMISTRY

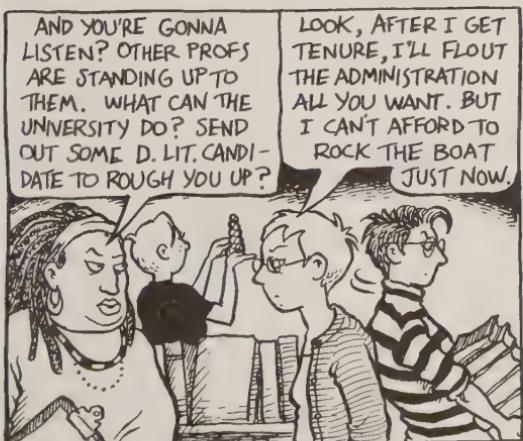
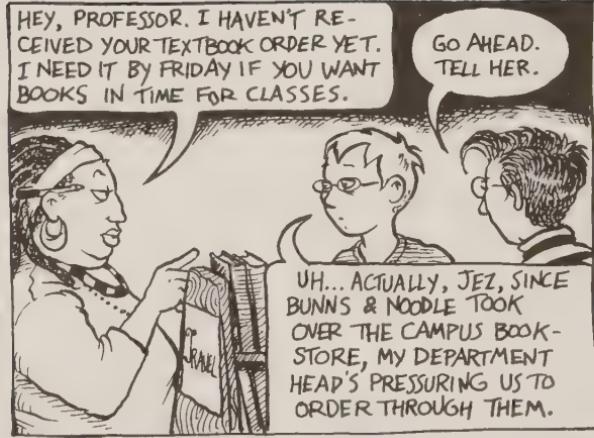
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THE SITUATION IN SUBURBIA IS ESCALATING.

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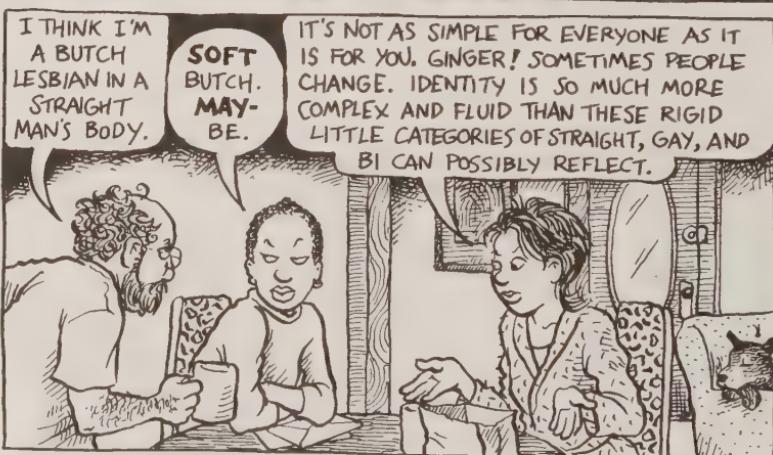
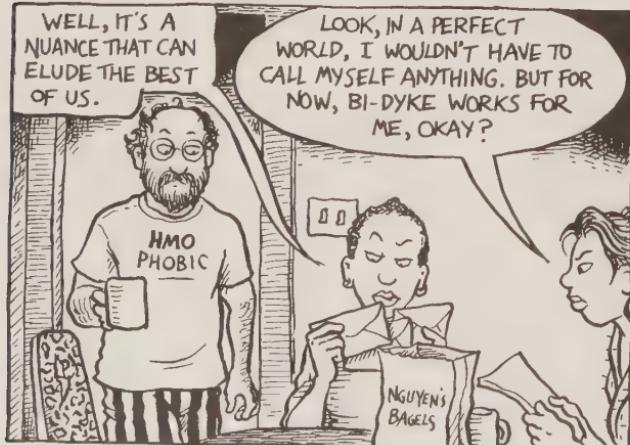
AND IN THE WAKE OF THE MOST RECENT ASSAULT, RAPPROCHEMENT BETWEEN MO AND SYDNEY APPEARS INCREASINGLY REMOTE.

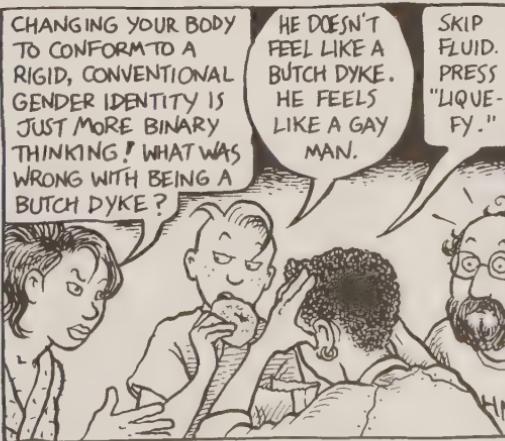
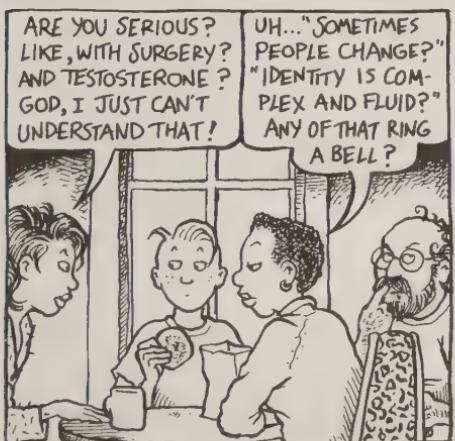


I.D. fixe?

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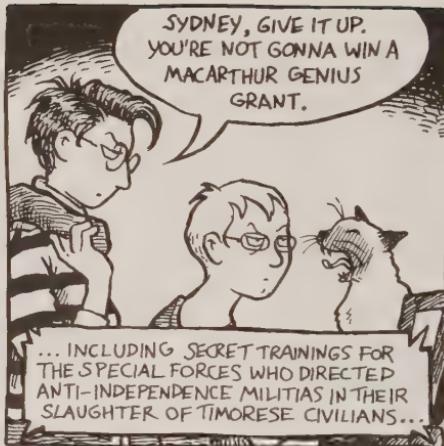
trite and true

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TIKKA
TIKKA
TIKKA

...THE INDONESIAN ARMY HAS RECEIVED OVER A BILLION DOLLARS OF MILITARY AID FROM THE US...



... INCLUDING SECRET TRAININGS FOR THE SPECIAL FORCES WHO DIRECTED ANTI-INDEPENDENCE MILITIAS IN THEIR SLAUGHTER OF TIMORESE CIVILIANS...



RIGHT. WELL, YOU SET THE WORLD ON FIRE. I'M GOING OVER TO HARRIET'S.



HEY, HARRIET'S TRITE OBSERVATIONS ABOUT THE MIRACLE OF A NEW LIFE BEAT LISTENING TO YOU ANY DAY OF THE WEEK.



RING

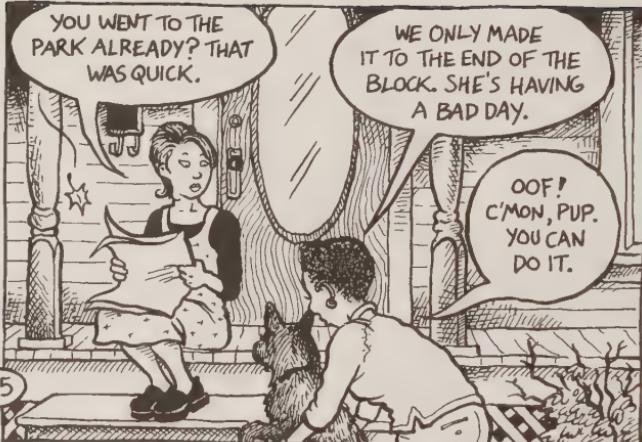
...SO I WAS THE ONE WITH ALL THE GLORY...



Sixty minute man

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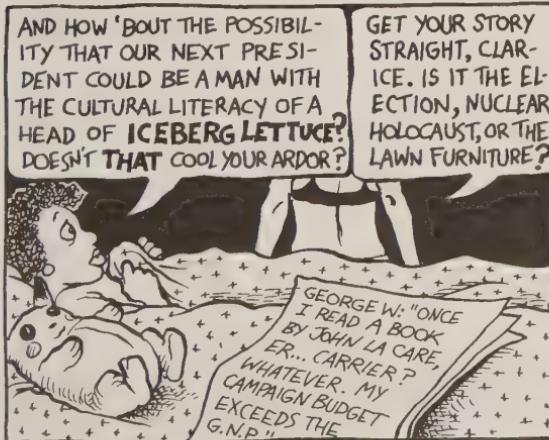


LABOR of Love

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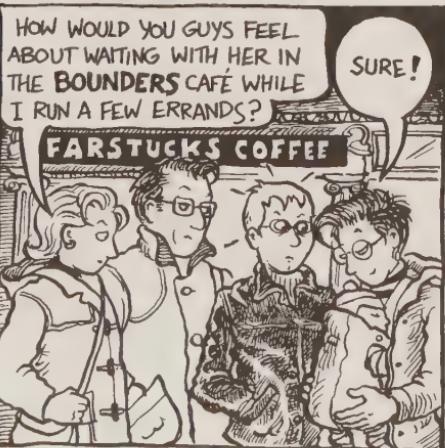


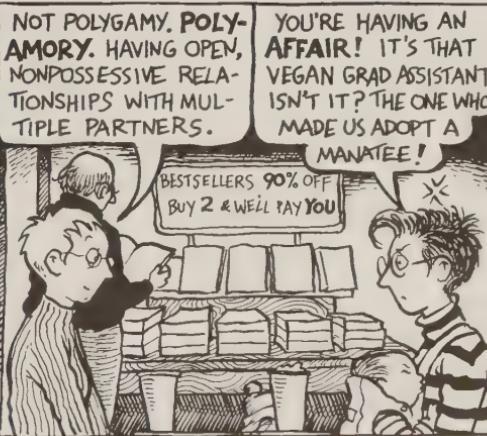


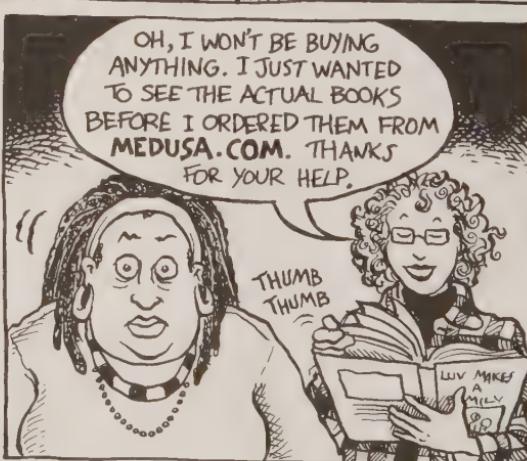
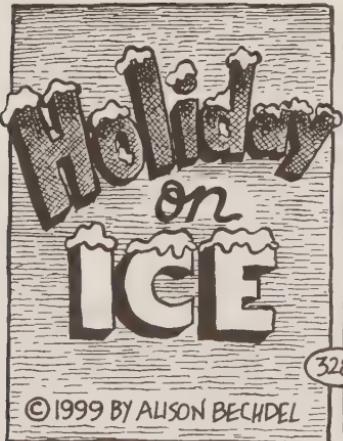
ECONOMY OF SCALE

ON A VISIT TO HER BROTHER, SISTER-IN-LAW, AND NEW NIECE, MO APPEARS TO BE COMPLETELY BE-SOTTED.

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AT SPARROW, STU, LOIS AND GINGER'S DIGS...



JUST MAKING SURE WE'VE GOT THE NECESSITIES ON HAND IN CASE OF A Y2K MELTDOWN.



OH, GINGER! DON'T FORGET TO STOCK UP ON DOG FOOD!



AND AT MIDTOWN MIDWIFERY SERVICES...



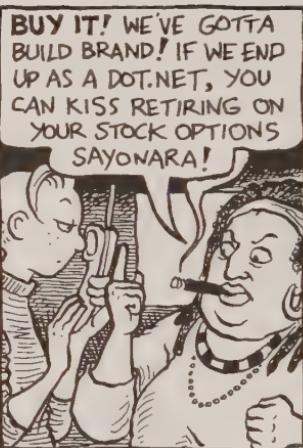
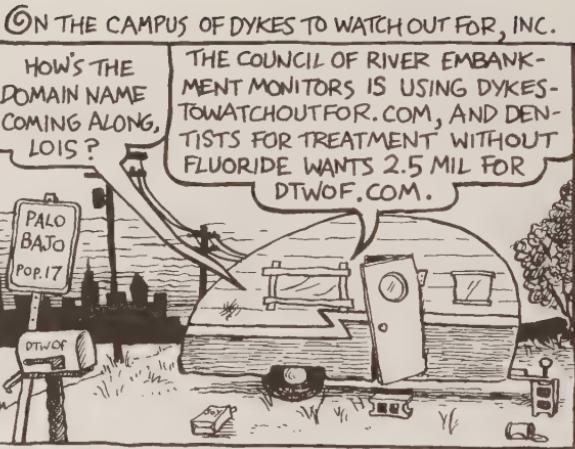
HARRIET, YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE IS AWFULLY HIGH. TO BE ON THE SAFE SIDE, I'M GOING TO SUGGEST THAT TONI TAKE YOU TO THE HOSPITAL IMMEDIATELY.





SORRY, READERS. THIS WEEK'S EPISODE HAS BEEN CANCELLED WHILE OUR STAFF SCRAMBLES BELATEDLY FOR A CRUMB OF THE e-PIE.

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WHAT ABOUT THE VIRTUAL COMICS PROGRAM RAFFI'S BEEN WORKING ON, WHERE THE USER BECOMES A CARTOON CHARACTER AND ENTERS THE SIMULATED ENVIRONMENT OF THE STRIP AND **INTERACTS** WITH US?



WE ALL LOOK LIKE POKÉMONS.

I'M WORKING ON IT. THIS IS JUST THE BETA.



THINK OF THE POSSIBILITIES! PEOPLE COULD MEET MO FOR BRUNCH! SPOT CARLOS ON THE BENCH PRESS! HAVE SEX WITH LOIS!



...AND BINGO! PAPAYAREPUBLIC.COM IS DOWNLOADING THEIR CREDIT CARD NUMBER!

SELLING PEOPLE MORE USELESS SHIT! I LIKE IT! BUT WE COULD SAVE OURSELVES A LOT OF TROUBLE BY GOING DIRECTLY TO SATAN.COM AND CASHING IN OUR SOULS!



HMM. INTERESTING, MO. THAT MIGHT BE A GOOD OPTION IF WE'RE UNABLE TO ATTRACT VENTURE CAPITAL.



WHAT HAPPENS IF I CLICK ON THE MO POKÉMON?

CLICK HER SHIRT AND YOU GO TO KMArt.COM. CLICK HER HEAD AND SHE IMPLODES FROM THE TENSION BETWEEN HER CORE BELIEFS AND THE THINGS SHE HAS TO DO FOR THIS JOB.



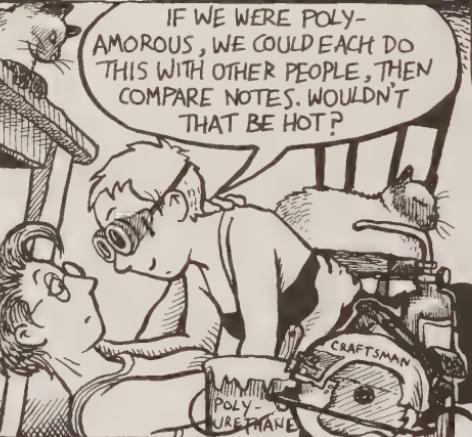
Polyamorous PerVesity

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Mo's
HOLIDAY
CRAFTS
PROJECT
APPEARS
TO
HAVE
BEEN
DERAILLED.

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IF WE WERE POLY-
AMOROUS, WE COULD EACH DO
THIS WITH OTHER PEOPLE, THEN
COMPARE NOTES. WOULDN'T
THAT BE HOT?

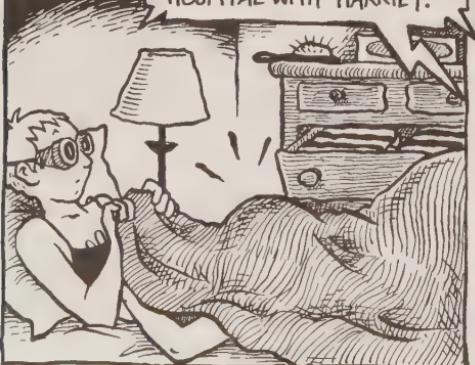


YOU
DRIVE ME
CRAZY.
I KNOW.



SOMEWHAT
LATER...

...MO? IT'S TONI. PICK UP
IF YOU'RE THERE. I'M AT THE
HOSPITAL WITH HARRIET.



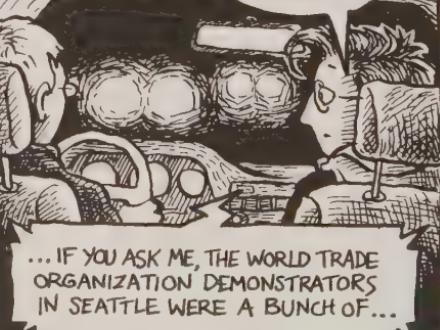
A
C-SECTION?
IS SHE OKAY?

I DUNNO. SHE'S
STILL IN THE O.R. THEY
SAID THE BABY WAS
IN TROUBLE.



SHORTLY...

THANKS
FOR COMING
ALONG.

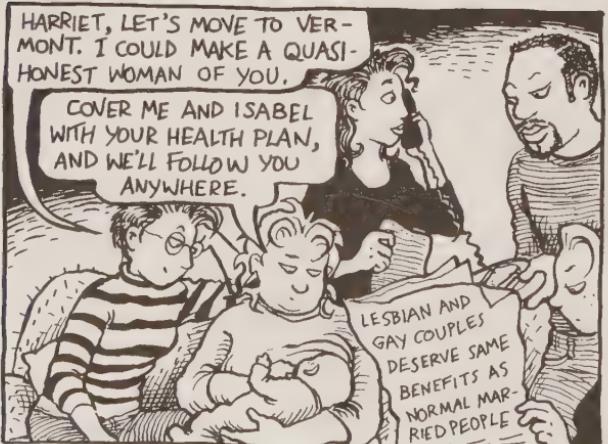




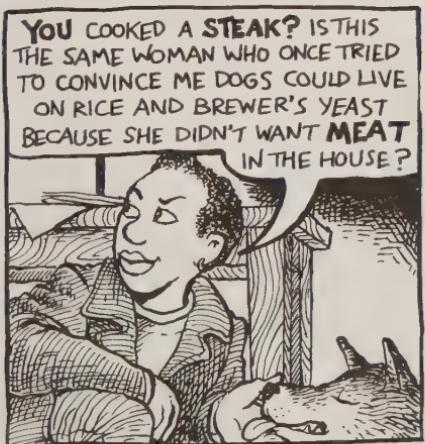
LUNCH MAKES A FAMILY

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Meanwhile...



TAG TEAM

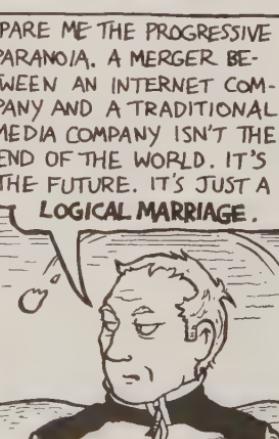
©2000 BY ALISON BECHDEL

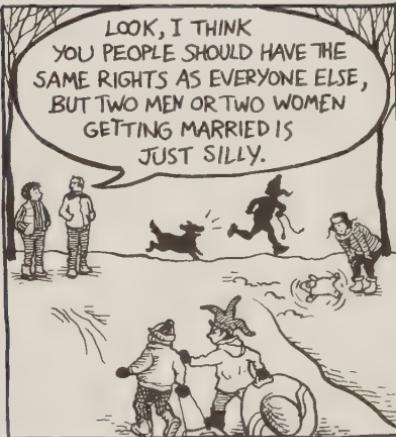
CLARICE HAS RUN INTO HER NEMESIS NEIGHBOR BILL AT THE LOCAL PARK WHERE THEIR RESPECTIVE CHILDREN ARE DISPORTING THEMSELVES.

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YEAH. WATCHING THE INTERNET TRANSFORM LIFE AS WE KNOW IT IS PRETTY EXCITING.

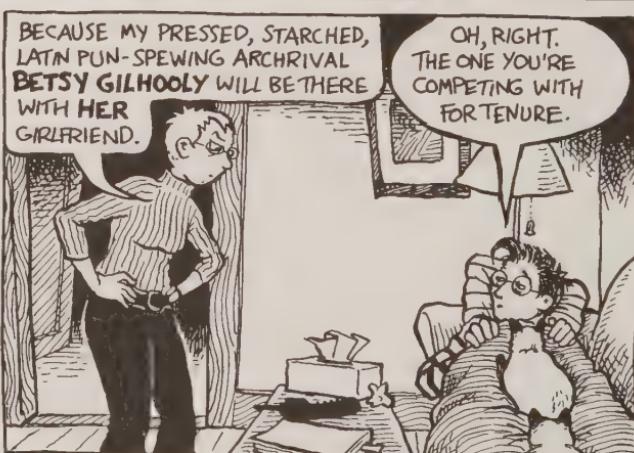
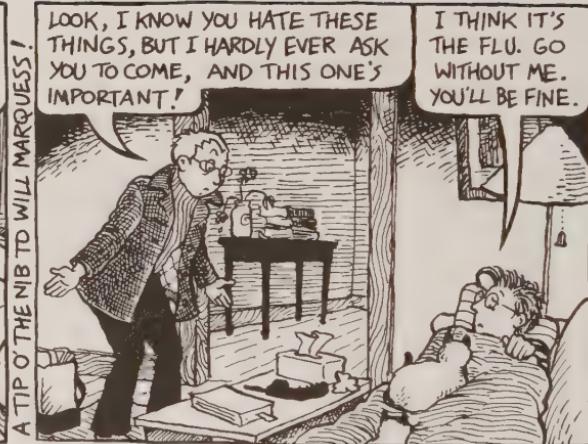




Village IDIOT

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AND TO TOP IT OFF, NOW THE GIRLFRIEND'S PREGNANT. THE DEAN'S VERY BIG ON CHILDREN. EVEN BIOENGINEERED ONES.



MO, I THINK I HAVE THE FLU OR SOMETHING. I CAN'T GET OFF THE COUCH. CAN YOU COME OVER AND HELP WITH ISABEL?



OKAY, HARRIET. I'LL BE RIGHT THERE.



HARRIET, MO'S A MESS. YOU'LL HAVE TO FIND ANOTHER NANNY. ... OH, REALLY? ... EVERYONE? YOU DON'T SAY...



LATER THAT EVENING...

WHAT A NICE WAY TO END THE WORKDAY THESE COLLEGIAL GATHERINGS ARE, DEAN. OR AS I ALWAYS SAY, SIC TRANSIT GLORIA TUESDAY! AH HA HA HA HA!



QUIET.

MS. KRUKOWSKI! WHO'S THIS LITTLE CHERUB! I DIDN'T KNOW YOU WERE A PARENT!

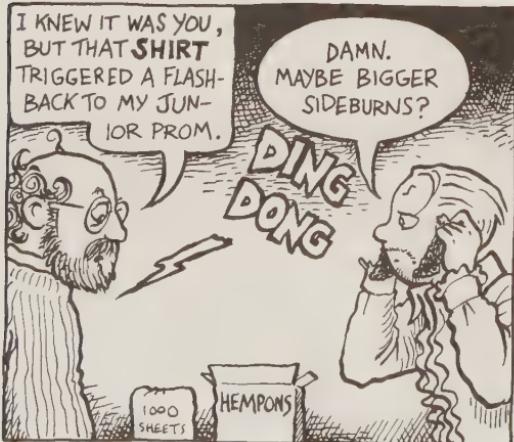


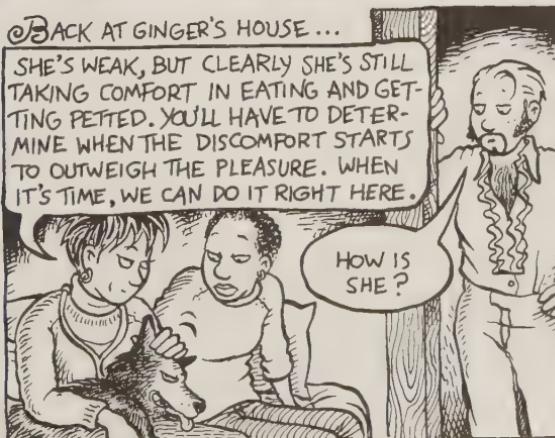
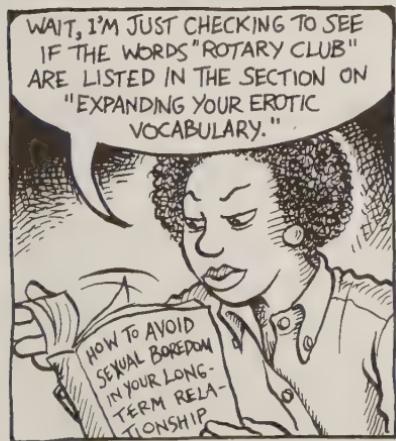
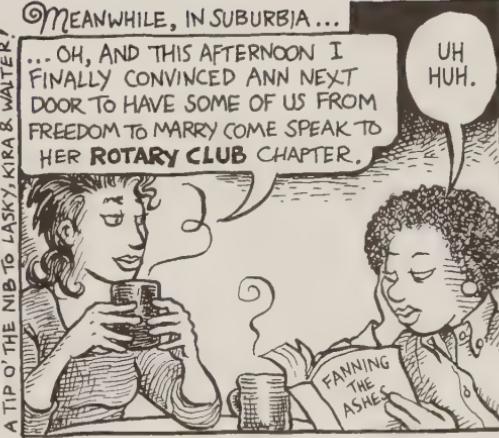
WELL, DEAN, TECHNICALLY I'M JUST HELPING OUT A SICK FRIEND, BUT YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAY— IT TAKES A VILLAGE TO RAISE A CHILD.

OLD DOG NEW TRICKS

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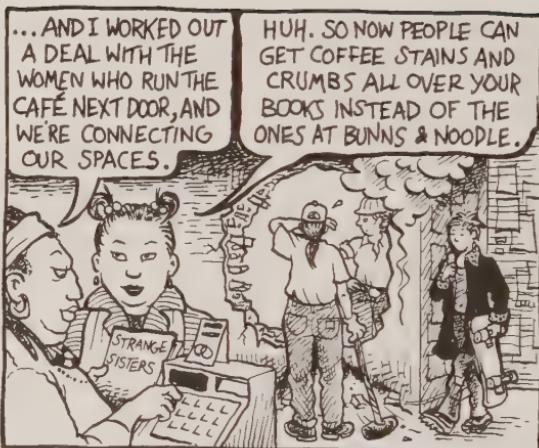


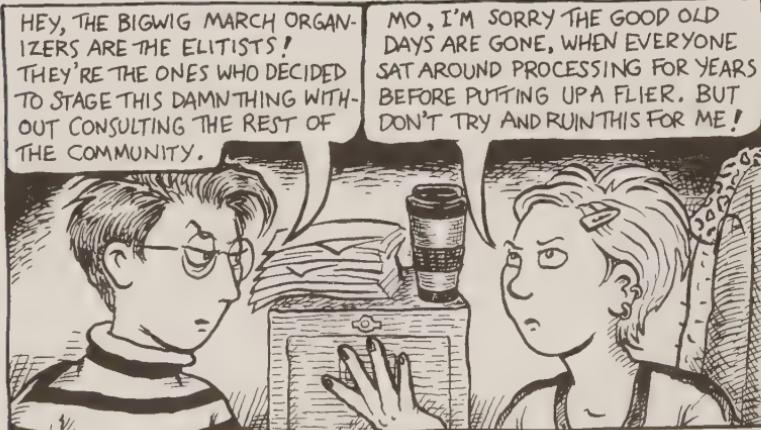
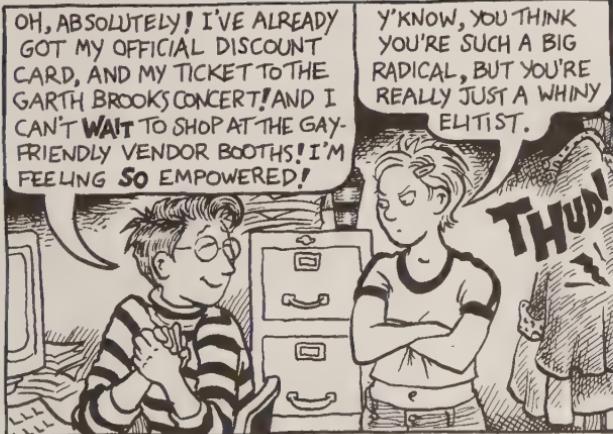


A FINE MESS

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HOOP DREAMS PART 1

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IN THE LOBBY...

HEY, LOIS! I HAVEN'T
SEEN YOU AT A GAME
BEFORE.

UH... HI, JERRY. I
JUST CAME WITH
MY HOUSEMATE.
ARE YOU A FAN?

MEN

A FAN?! SEE THAT
TROPHY? I WAS A LADY POR-
CUPINE THE YEAR WE WENT
TO THE NCAA'S!

AND IN THE LADIES ROOM...

TONI!

GLORIA?!

Flush

BUT... WHAT ARE YOU
DOING HERE? YOU'RE
SUPPOSED TO BE IN
ALBUQUERQUE!

WE JUST MOVED
BACK LAST WEEK!
ANA GOT TRANS-
FERRED AGAIN.

I...
NOBODY
TOLD
ME!

I THOUGHT OF CALLING
YOU. BUT YOU KNOW, WE
HAVEN'T BEEN IN TOUCH...
AND WE PARTED ON SUCH
AN AWKWARD NOTE.

SO HOW'S
RAFFI? AND UH,
CLARICE?

BACK IN THE STANDS...

YESSS!

3

HEW! THE LADY PORCUPINES ARE UP
BY ONE AT THE HALFTIME BUZZER! TUNE
IN NEXT TIME AS THE TECHNICAL FOULS
CONTINUE!

HOOP DREAMS

PART 2

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WE LAST LEFT OUR SPORADIC SPORTSFANS AT HALF-TIME.

PLAY APPEARS TO HAVE RESUMED.

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Y'KNOW, IT'S NOT SO MUCH THE EVANGELICAL TYPES I HAVE A PROBLEM WITH. THERE'S NO REASONING WITH THEM, SO LET THEM HAVE THEIR DAMN HELLFIRE.

CALIFORNIA BACK ANTI SAME-SEX MARRIAGE INITIATIVE BY LANDSLIDE VOTE

LADY PORCUPINES

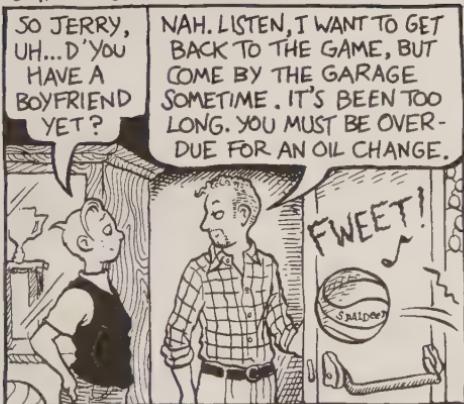
MY FIRST BOOK OF SNAKES

IT'S THE REST OF THESE COM-PLACENT YAHOO'S I WANT TO SMACK. WHAT DO THEY BELIEVE IN? DAVID LETTERMAN? YET TAKE A POLL, AND IT'S "SAME-SEX MARRIAGE? UH, I DON'T THINK SO. CAN I HAVE MY REMOTE BACK NOW?"

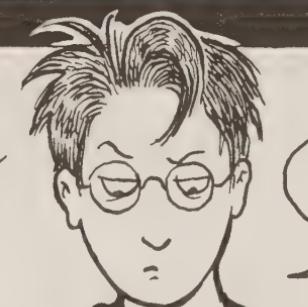
ROAR!

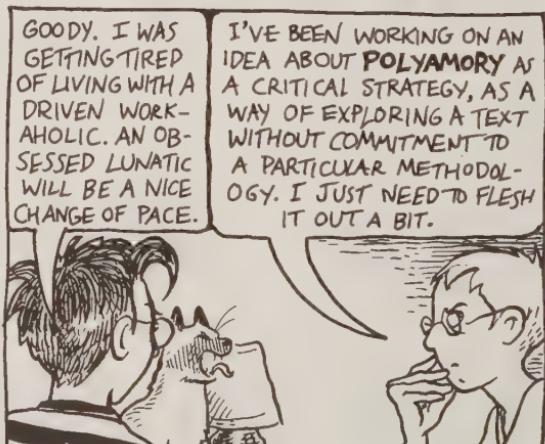
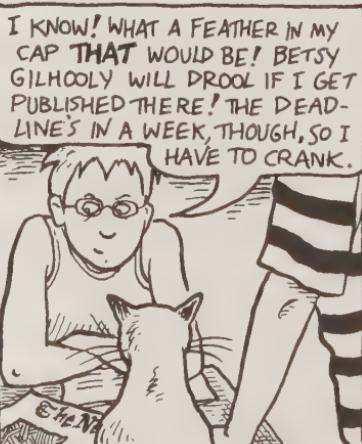
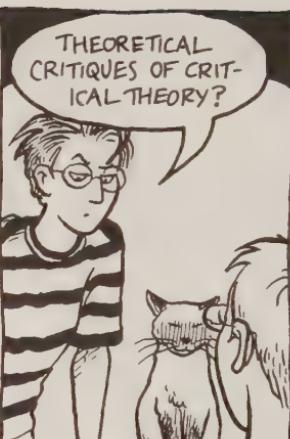
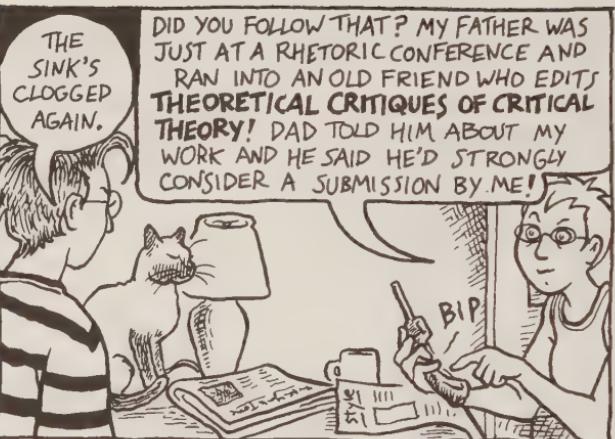


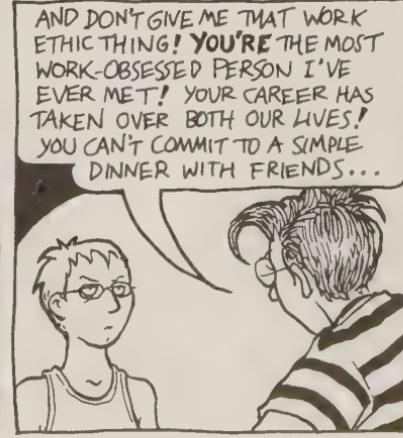
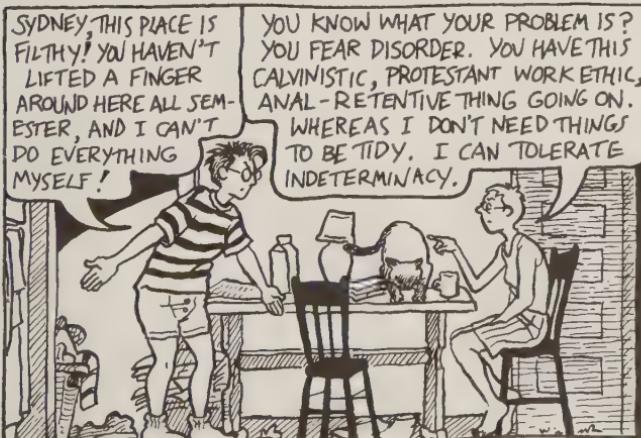
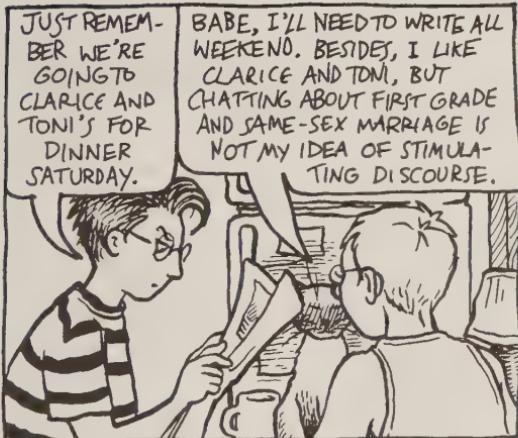
©AND LOIS IS LOBBYING TOO...



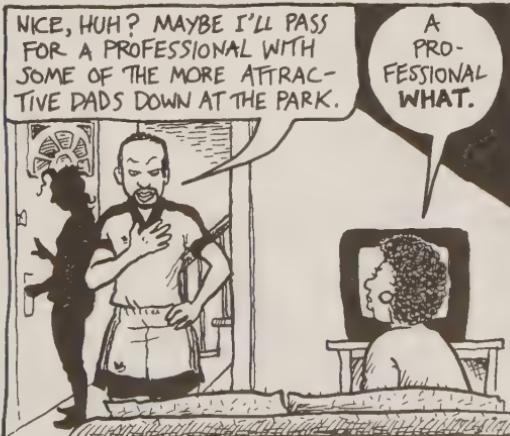
flow state

















KUNDALINI IS THE DIVINE COSMIC ENERGY THAT LIES DORMANT AT THE BASE OF OUR PERINEUMS. WE HAVE TO AROUSE IT, GET IT TO RISE ALONG THE ENERGY CHANNEL OF OUR SPINAL COLUMN AND PIERCE OUR VARIOUS CHAKRAS. THEN WE CAN COMMUNE WITH THE ULTIMATE UNIVERSAL SOUL!



HUH. WHEN I WANT TO COMMUNE WITH THE ULTIMATE UNIVERSAL SOUL, I PUT ON SOME ARETHA.

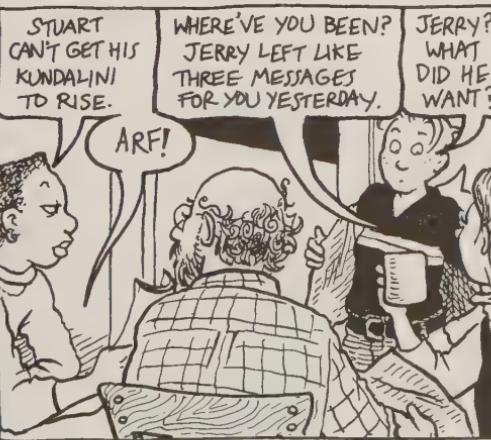
THINK OF THE CHAKRA-SYSTEM AS AN ENGINE, GINGER. IF ONE CHAKRA IS BLOCKED, THE FUEL, OR KUNDALINI, CAN'T GET THROUGH. IT'S LIKE YOU'RE NOT FIRING ON ALL YOUR CYLINDERS.



JINGLE SCRAPE CLICK!

WUF!

SHH... IT'S OKAY, DIGGER. IT'S JUST LOIS DRAGGING HERSELF HOME.

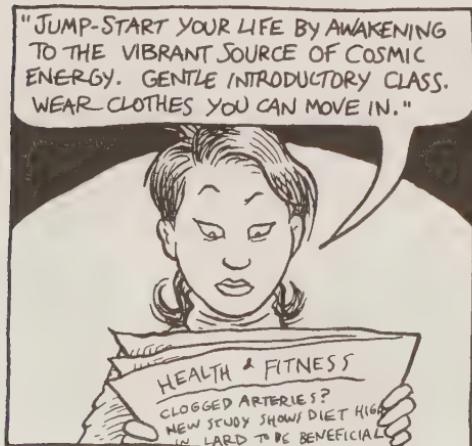
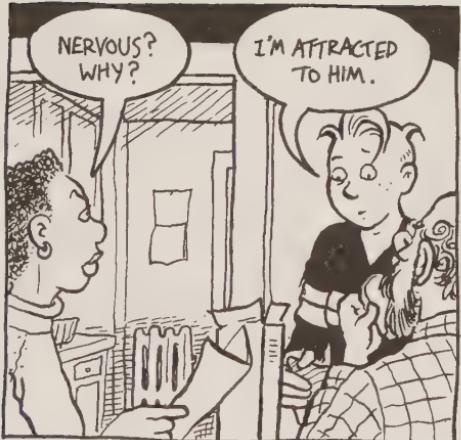


JERRY? WHAT DID HE WANT?

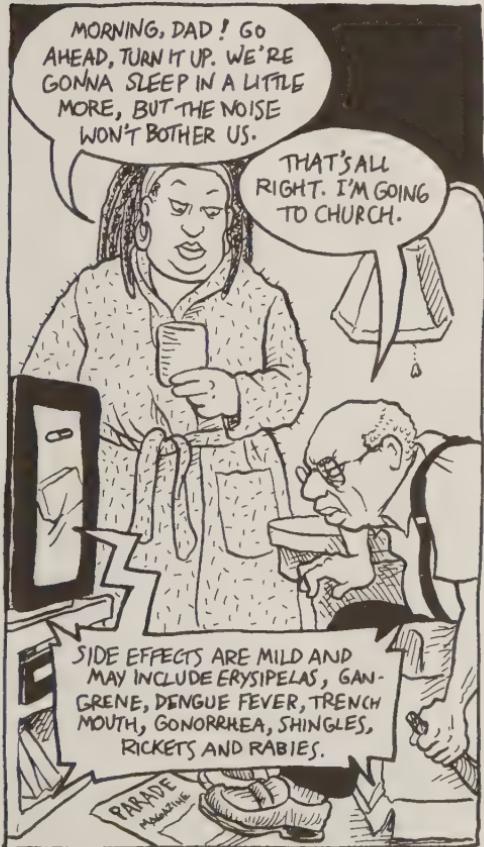
IT'S ON THE MACHINE. BAD NEWS ABOUT YOUR CAR. YOU HAVE A SEIZED PISTON OR SOMETHING. SHE... HE'S WAITING TO HEAR WHAT YOU WANT TO DO.

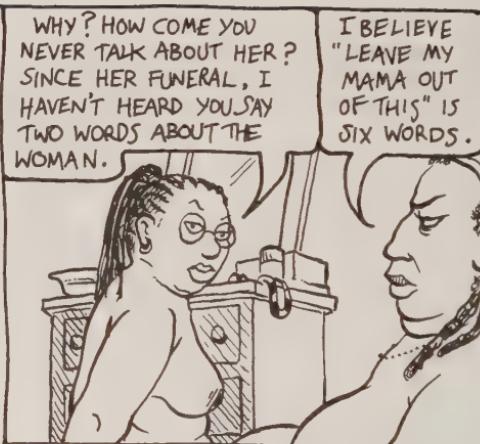
SHIT! I WAS DUE FOR AN OIL CHANGE LIKE TWO MONTHS AGO. BUT I'VE BEEN SO NERVOUS AROUND JERRY LATELY, I DIDN'T WANT TO TAKE IT IN.



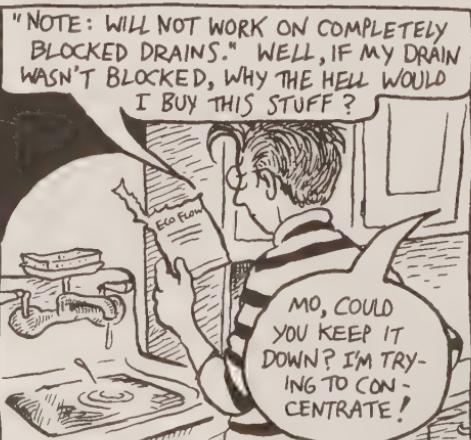
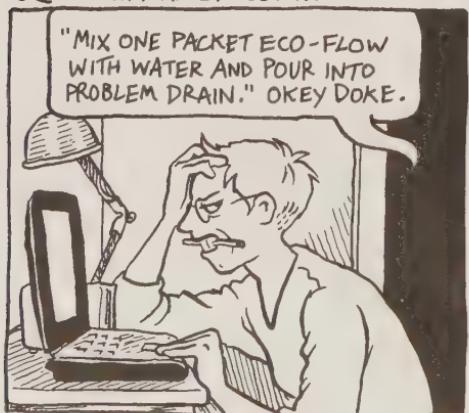


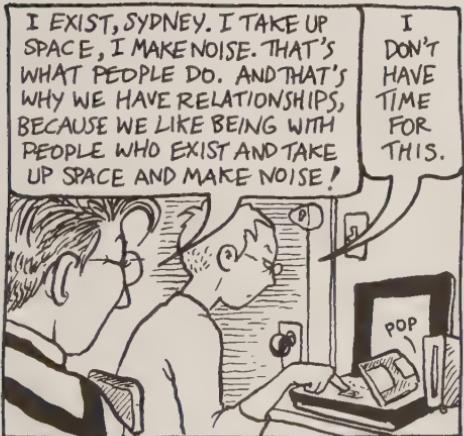
THINGS ARE AMISS AT JEZANNA'S HOUSE, TOO.

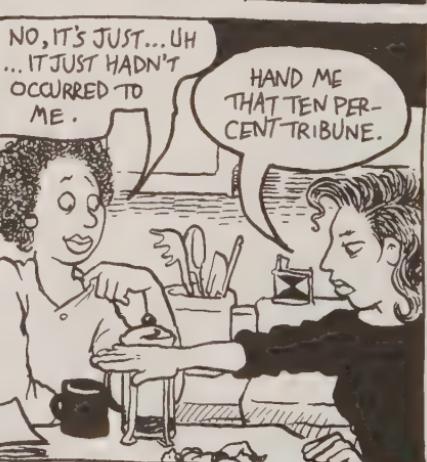


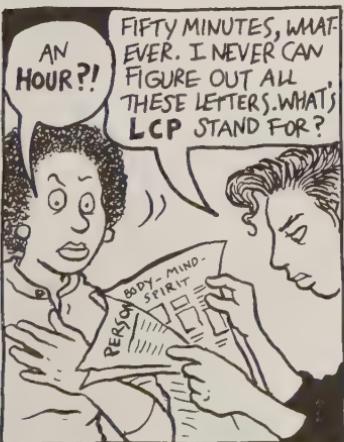


LATER THAT AFTERNOON...

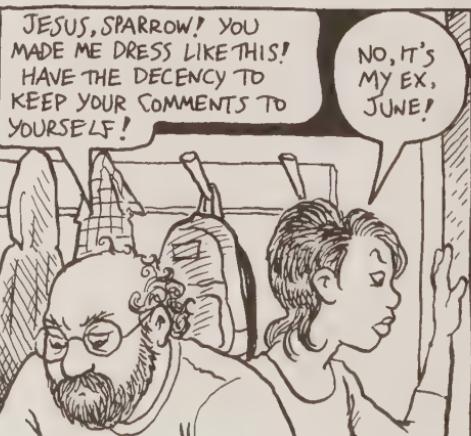






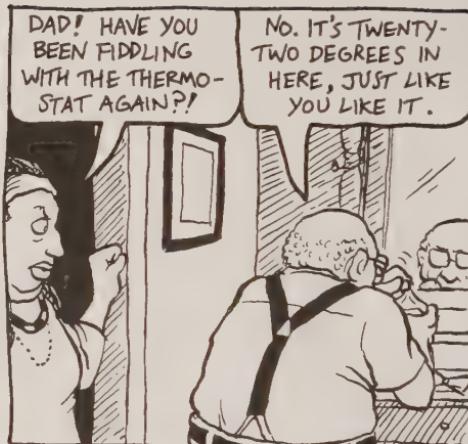


tuesday evening...



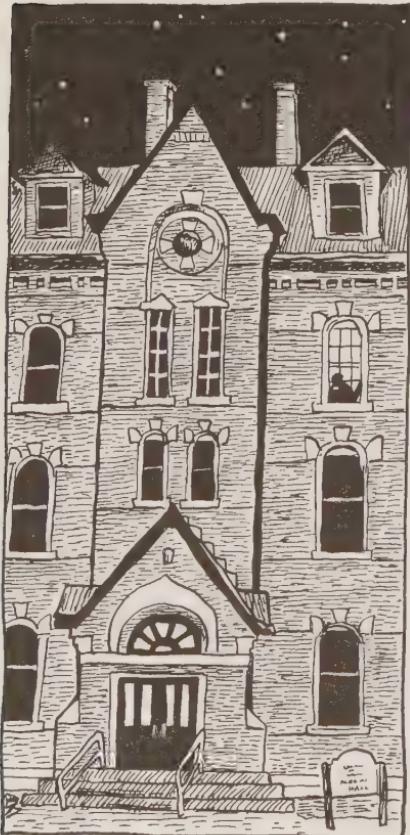


OVER AT JEZANNA'S...



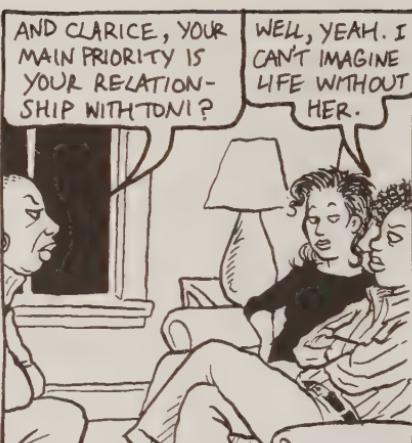


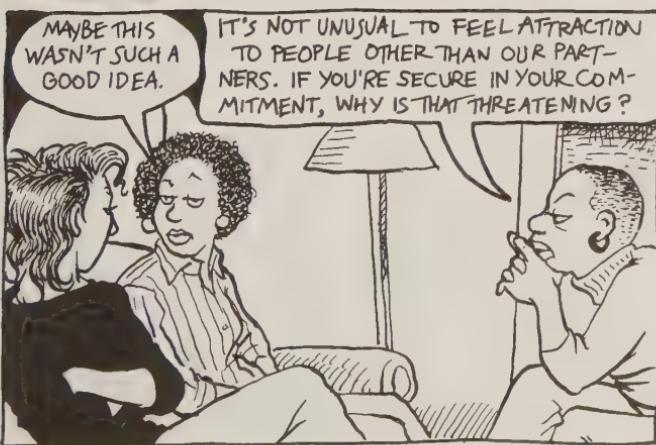
©MEANWHILE, SYDNEY'S WORKING LATE...

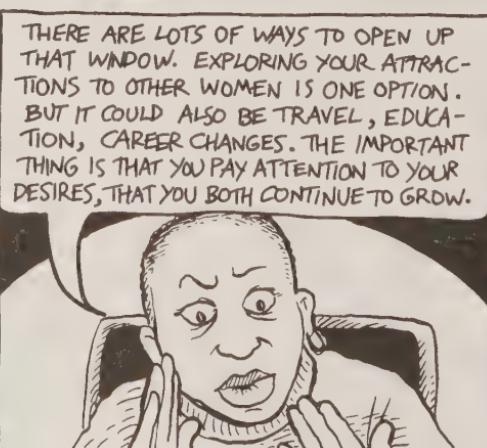
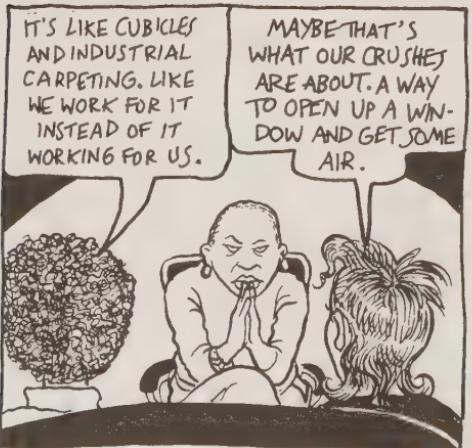


SHORTLY...









MEANWHILE...



APRÈS YOGA...

I'VE NEVER BEEN
SO HUMILIATED
IN MY LIFE!

STUART, WHAT WAS I SUP-
POSED TO DO? SAY NO,
I CAN'T DO THIS STRETCH
WITH YOU BECAUSE MY
BOYFRIEND'S SECOND
CHAKRA IS BLOCKED?



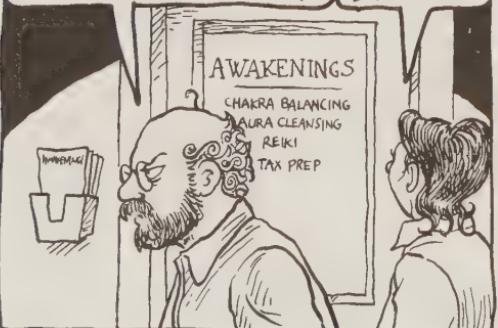
I DON'T MEAN JUNE. I
MEAN WHEN THE INSTRUC-
TOR WAS USING ME TO
DEMONSTRATE THE WRONG
WAY TO DO DOWNWARD DOG
AND MY TIGHTS RIPPED!

NOBODY
NOTICED.
THAT! YOU'RE
SO SELF-
CONSCIOUS!



NOBODY NOTICED. THAT'S
WHY MR. SWEATPANTS SAID,
"DUDE, HOW DO YOU GET
YOUR WHITES SO WHITE?"

HEY, LOOK.
THIS PLACE
DOES CHAKRA
BALANCING.

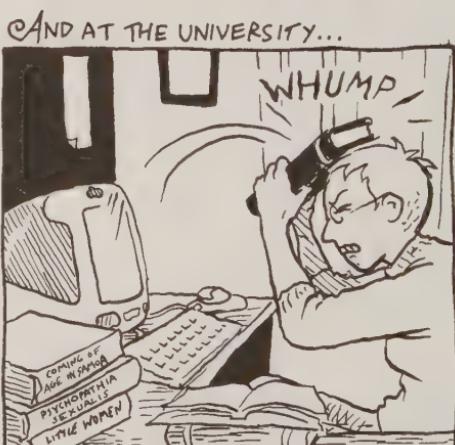


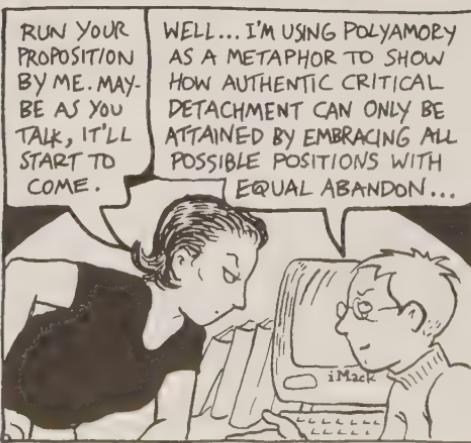
HUH.
COOL.
MAYBE YOU
SHOULD CHECK
IT OUT.

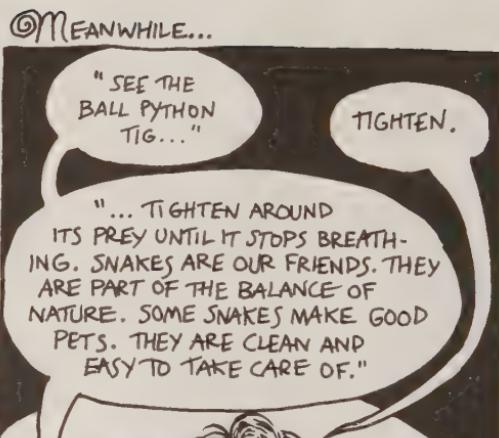


friday night...







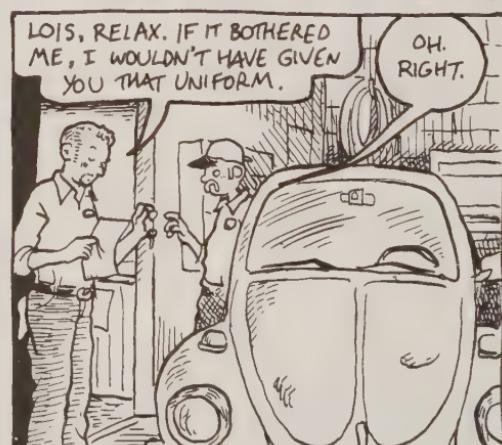
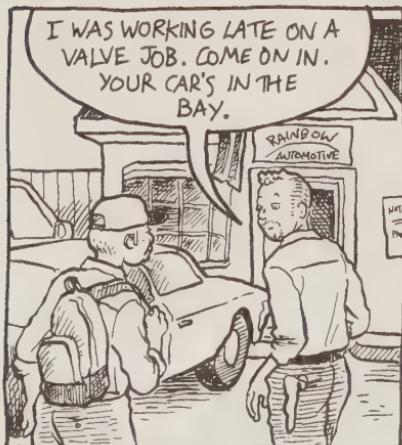




MEANWHILE...

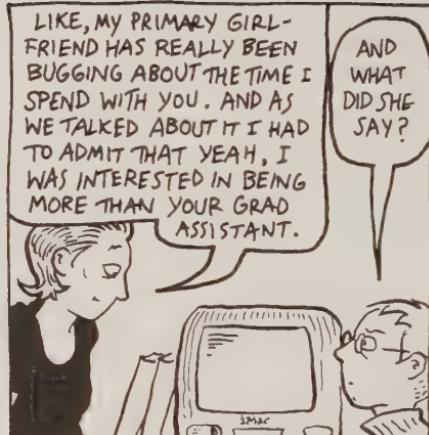
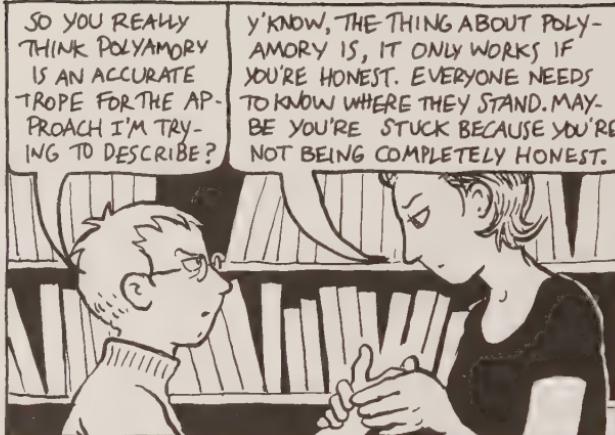
THANKS FOR THE LIFT, GINGER. ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T WANT TO COME TO THE DRAG KING SHOW? MAX AXEL'S BECOMING SOMETHING OF A LOCAL LEGEND.

TEMPTING, BUT IT'S BEEN A LONG WEEK. I'LL WAIT TO MAKE SURE YOUR CAR STARTS.





MEANWHILE, IN THE GROOVE
OF ACADEME...



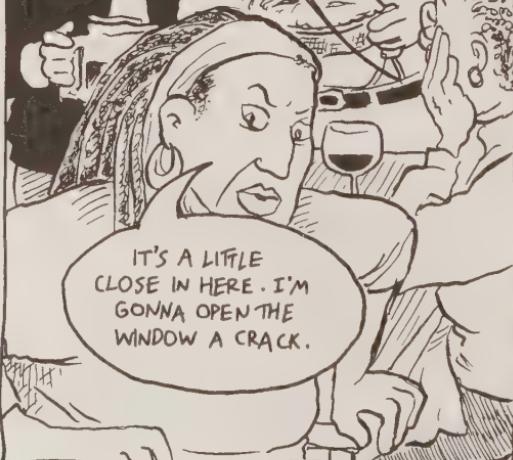
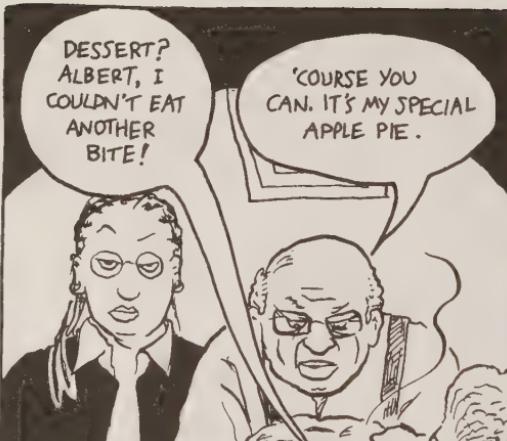
STUART'S GOING FOR A SPIN...

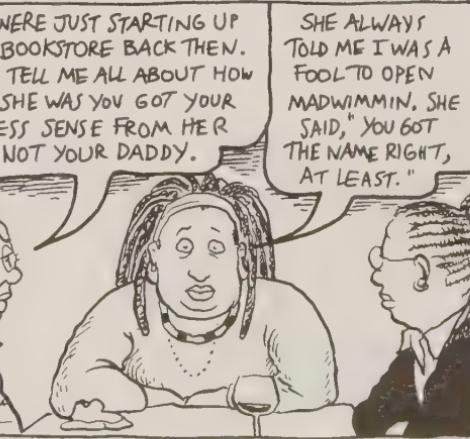


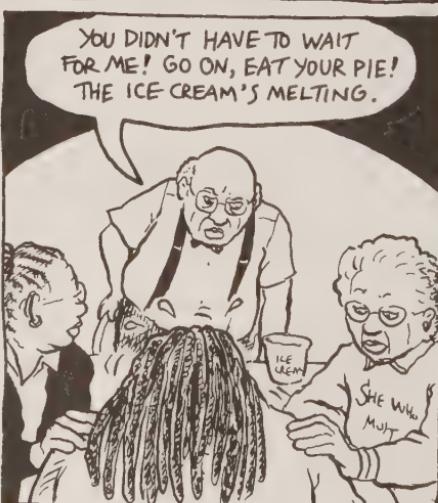
©BACK AT TH'RANCH...

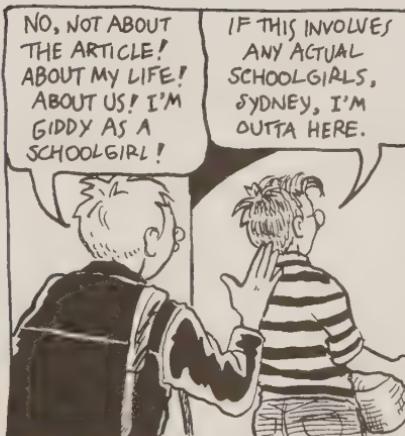
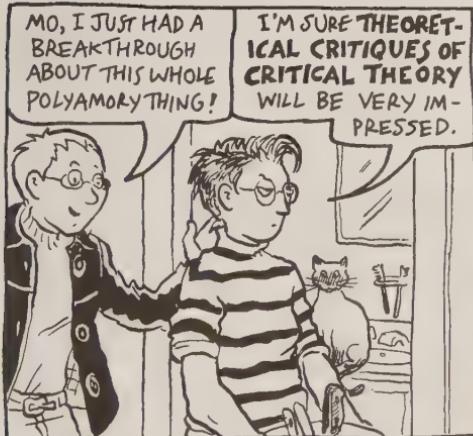




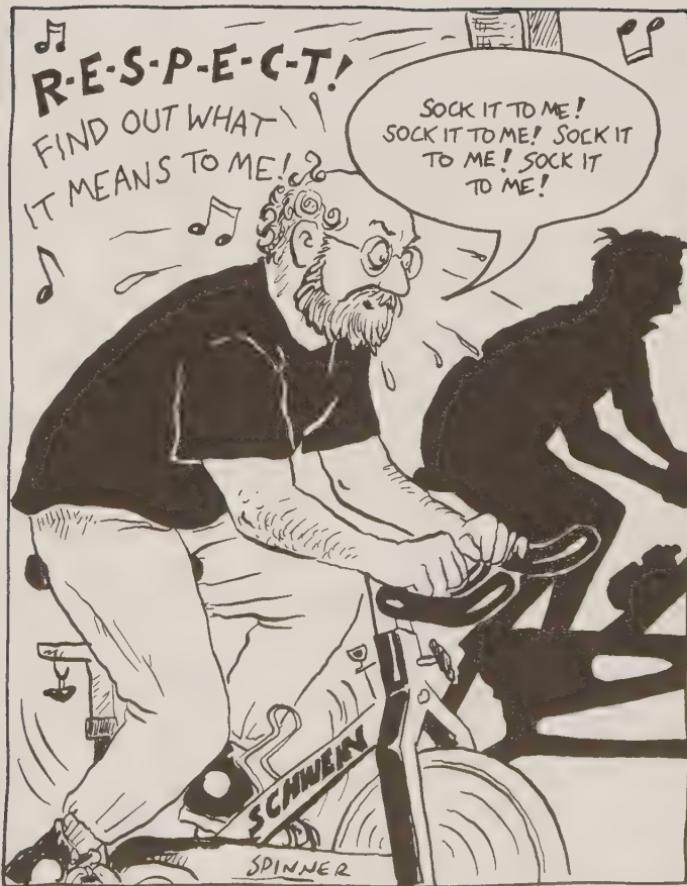






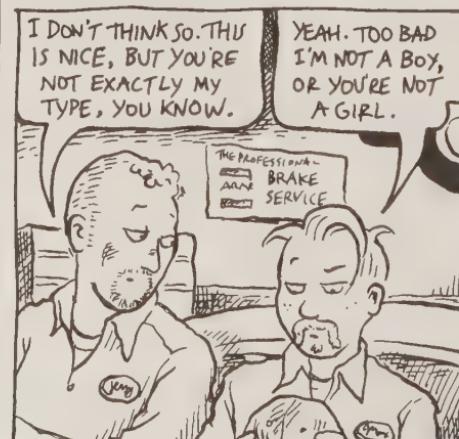


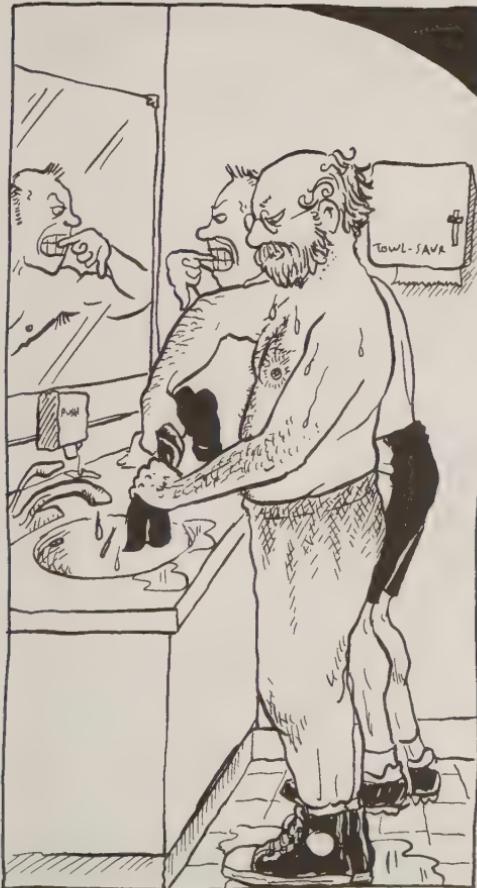




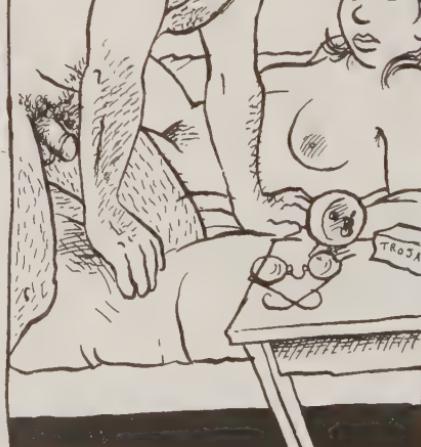
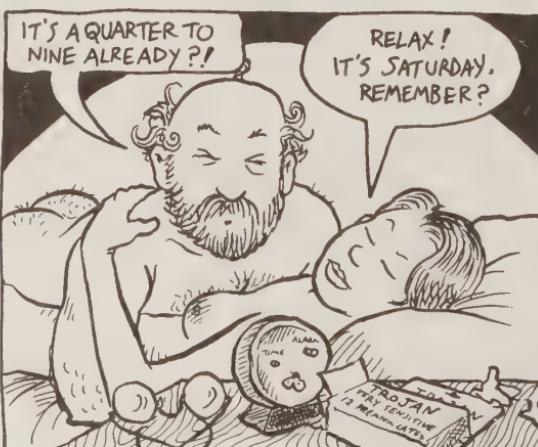
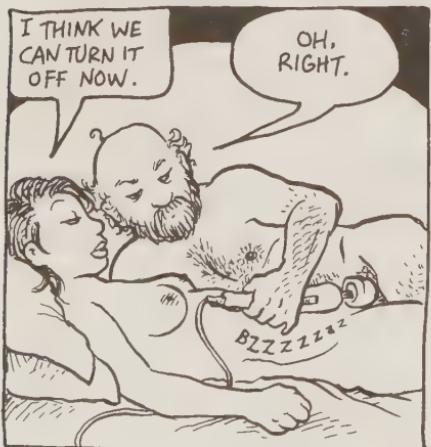
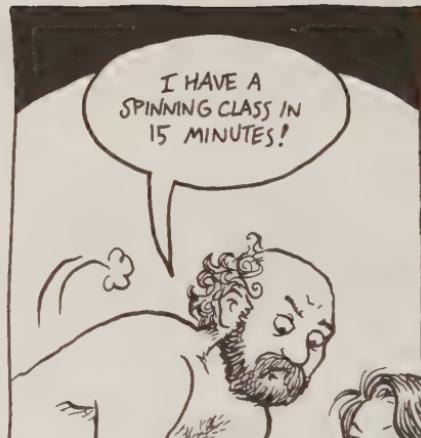
I CAN JUST SUBMIT THE ARTICLE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE. I'VE GOT A WHOLE NEW TAKE ON IT NOW, ANYWAY. WHAT WAS I THINKING? CAN ONE POSSIBLY ACHIEVE AUTHENTIC CRITICAL DETACHMENT UNLESS ONE IS CRITICALLY **ENGAGED**? I DON'T THINK SO!

I'VE ALWAYS
WANTED TO BE THE
OTHER WOMAN.





the next morning...



@AT MO AND
SYDNEY'S...

WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?

WAITING FOR YOU TO GET UP
SO I CAN START VACUUMING.
AND I WAS HOPING YOU COULD
HELP ME HAUL OUT THE RECY-
CLING BEFORE YOU LEFT FOR WORK.



HEY, I'M THE FLING. GET YOUR
PRIMARY PARTNER TO DO THAT
STUFF. WE'RE JUST SUPPOSED TO
SHARE EXALTED MOMENTS OF SEX-
UAL TRANSCENDENCE, COM-
PLETELY OBLIVIOUS TO THE MUN-
DANE EXIGENCIES OF DAILY LIFE.



HEY,
I'M HUNGRY!
I THOUGHT WE
WERE GONNA
HAVE BREAKFAST
BEFORE YOU
OPENED UP.

I'M
NOT OPENING
UP YET. I JUST
WANNA DO SOME-
THING BEFORE
ANYONE ELSE
GETS HERE.



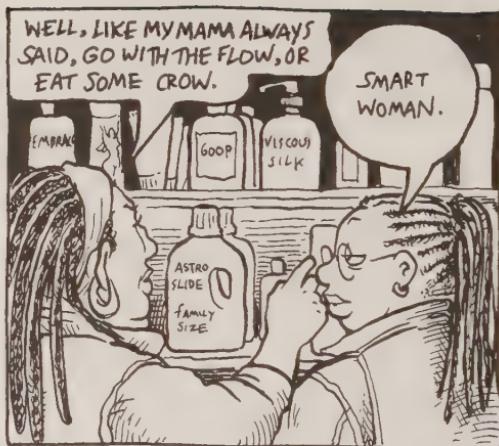
COME BACK
TO BED.

WHAT DO YOU WANT? TRAN-
SCENDENCE OR TIDINESS?

CULTURE
IS
ORDINARY

THE VACUUM CLEANER
BAG'S FULL... LEMME CHECK
IF THERE'S A NEW ONE
UNDER THE SINK.









SHORTLY...



that evening...









THAT WE'RE
THINKING OF BECOMING
SUBURBAN SWINGERS? NO,
LET THEM DREAM.

MOMENTARILY...

I LOVE VIS-
ITING THOSE GUYS.
WE SHOULD THINK
ABOUT BUYING
A HOUSE.

Y'KNOW, THAT ICE CREAM
ANALOGY COULD BE THE
PERFECT DISCURSIVE
MOTIF TO TIE MY ARTI-
CLE TOGETHER. YOU GO
ON TO BED. I'M GONNA
MAKE A FEW NOTES.

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Multiple Languages Award-winning Alison Bechdel lives in rural Vermont, where she aims to challenge binary thinking.



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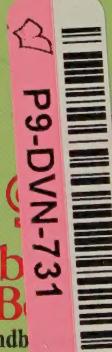
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